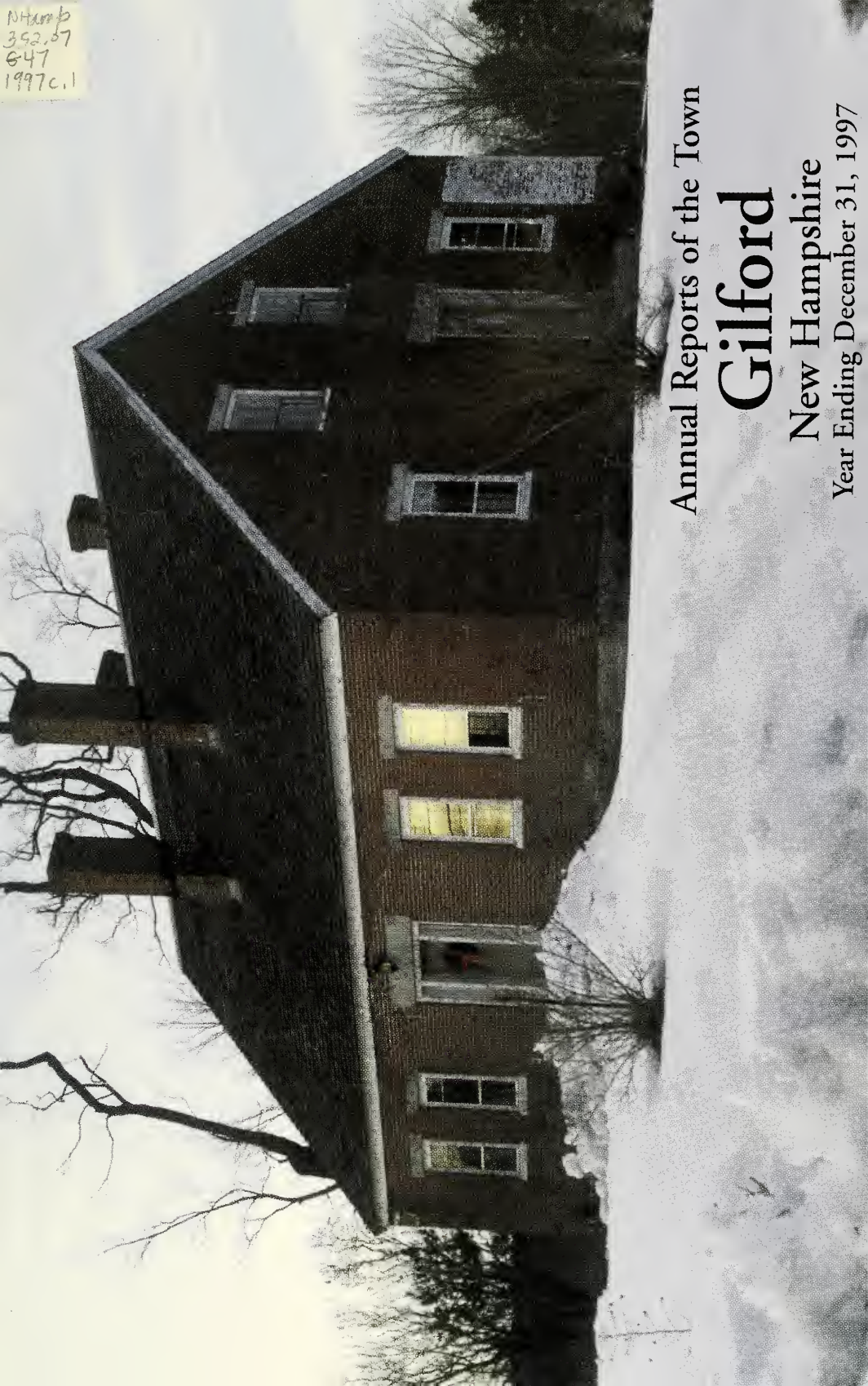


NHamp
352.07
647
1997c.1



Annual Reports of the Town
Gilford
New Hampshire
Year Ending December 31, 1997

THE BENJAMIN ROWE HOUSE

The Benjamin Rowe House is more than just an early brick house. As the only building in the Village which does not face the road, it is an historical, architectural boundary between the “village” and “rural” dwellings of Gilford’s past. It is also a rare structure: a survey of 32 towns in the Lakes Region in the early 1980’s noted only 21 brick capes. Furthermore, the Rowe House has been recognized as unique in New Hampshire for its four interior chimneys, a singular architectural feature not found as yet in any early buildings in the state, wooden or brick. Its interior has also been remarkably retained, given its use as an office building for nearly twenty years.

Benjamin Rowe, a brickmaker, settled in Gilford in 1815, and the 150 acre farm remained in the Rowe family until 1908. Benjamin made the bricks for his house and the other brick building in Gilford Village at the stream below Pine Grove Cemetery. From 1908 it was owned by the Ernest Sawyer family until 1969, when the Town of Gilford bought it from Alvah and Ruth (Sawyer) Wilson. In 1974, Gilford Middle High School was built on a portion of the farm, and the farmhouse itself was occupied by various Town Offices. Still owned by the Town, it was renovated and restored by the Rowe Committee, with the aid of donations, grants, the services of Voc-Tech students, and many volunteers. Since 1992, it has been the home of the New Hampshire Music Festival.

Cover Photograph courtesy of
Kathy Francke

Annual Reports

of the town of

GILFORD

New Hampshire

for the year ending

December 31, 1997

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEMS FOR ACTION AT THE 1998 TOWN MEETING

Town Warrant	}	See Blue Section	
Town Budget			
School Warrant			
School Budget			
Dedication			4

TOWN OFFICERS

List of Town Officers	5
Telephone Directory	9

ACTIVITY REPORTS OF OFFICERS, OFFICIALS, BOARDS, COMMITTEE AND COMMISSIONS

Report of the Selectmen	11
Report of the Assessor	13
Report of the Town Clerk	15
Report of the Department of Planning and Land Use	16
Report of the Police Department	19
Report of the Department of Public Works	21
Report of the Fire Department	23
Report of the Town Forest Fire Warden	25
Report of the Recreation Commission	26
Report of the Librarian & Library Trustees	30
Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds	35
Report of the Overseer of Public Welfare	36
Report of the Old Home Day Committee	37
Report of the Task Force on Drug/Alcohol Abuse Prevention	38
Report of the Land Conservation Task Force	40
Report of the Benjamin Rowe House Committee	41
Report of the Kimball Castle Committee	42
Report on the March 11, 1997 Annual Meeting	43

1997 FINANCIAL RECORDS

Certificate	58
Tax Collector's Report	59
Summary of Tax Lien Account	61
Town Clerk's Report	62
Treasurer's Report/Conservation Commission Funds	63
Report of the Trustee of Trust Funds	64
Summary Inventory of Valuation	66
Town Appropriations	67
Comparative Statement of Appropriations & Expenditures	69
Comparative Statement of Carryover Appropriations	72
Estimate of Revenues	73
Computation of 1996 Taxes Assessed	74
Summary of Receipts	75
Schedule of Town Property	78
Statement of Bonded Debt	80
Auditor's Report on Financial Presentation	81
Vital Statistics	84

SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORTS

Officers of the School District	S-1
Report on the March 19 School District Meeting	S-2
Report of the School Board Chairperson	S-7
Report of the Middle-High School Principal	S-9
Report of the Elementary School Principal	S-13
School Statistics	S-16
School Lunch Program	S-17
Financial Report on the School District	S-18
Auditor's Report on Financial Presentation	S-21

GUNSTOCK ACRES WATER DISTRICT

Financial Report	V-1
------------------------	-----

Dedication



ARTHUR TILTON

Arthur's roots in Gilford date back to 1884 when his grandfather bought the homestead on Old Lakeshore Road from John J. Morrill. The Tilton family raised dairy cattle on the newly opened land.

For 81 years Arthur has lived on the homestead and toiled the land, carrying on the proud heritage of Gilford families.

So proud of his heritage, and in his desire to preserve this quality of life for future generations, Arthur has created conservation easements on his land with the Society for the Protection of N.H. Forests. He has assured that the farm will

continue to look much like it did in 1884 when his grandfather brought his family to settle there.

For many years, Arthur, as moderator, was responsible for the smooth functioning of town and school district meetings. In more recent years residents listened attentively as Arthur offers his pearls of wisdom. You can be sure that he has the moderator's attention when he rises to speak, usually without being called upon, and in his booming voice, demand attention with his "Mr. Moderator."

Known for his non-traditional leidehausen, Arthur can usually be seen in the dead of winter wearing shorts.

A visit to the farm these days and Arthur will delight in showing you his prize Scottish Highlanders, pigs, geese, and other assorted critters.

Arthur's service to the Town on various boards and commissions stands as testimony to his commitment to keep Gilford a strong and viable community. He served as moderator for the town from 1946 to 1956, the Recreation Commission from 1971 through 1986, and has served continuously on the Zoning Board of Adjustment since 1971. Other public service activities include the Gilford Bicentennial Commission, special Police Officer, Officer with the Gilford Fire Department, Kimball Castle Committee and Economic Development Committee. Arthur was also instrumental in the construction of the former Glendale Fire Station, and was a major resource for The Gunstock Parish, A History of Gilford, N.H.

In recognition of his service on the Recreation Commission and providing activities for citizens young and old, in 1987 the community skating facility on Varney Point Road was renamed the Arthur A. Tilton Ice Rink. The community thanks Arthur for his many contributions to the Town and his lifelong commitment to preserving the town's heritage.

**Town Officers
1997**

**OFFICERS ELECTED BY BALLOT AT
TOWN MEETING**

Term Commencing on Day of Town Meeting

**Three-Year Terms
SELECTMEN**

Philip D. LaBonte	Term Expires 1998
Phillippe A. Arel	Term Expires 1999
Rudolph G. Lehr	Term Expires 2000

TOWN CLERK-TAX COLLECTOR

Debra Eastman	Term Expires 1999
---------------	-------------------

TREASURER

Gregory Dickinson	Annual Term 1998
-------------------	------------------

OVERSEER OF WELFARE

William Connelly	Annual Term 1998
------------------	------------------

**Two-Year Term
MODERATOR**

Peter Millham	Term Expires 1998
---------------	-------------------

**Six-Year Terms
SUPERVISORS OF CHECKLIST**

Dorothy Kereage	Term Expires 1998
Mary Lou Grevatt	Term Expires 2000
Carolyn Smith	Term Expires 2002

**Three-Year Terms
TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS**

George Sawyer, Chairman	Term Expires 1998
Emily Hanscom	Term Expires 1999
Milo Bacon	Term Expires 2000

**Three-Year Terms
TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Polly Sanfacon, Chair	Term Expires 1998
-----------------------	-------------------

Barbara Harris	Term Expires 1999
Edward Merski	Term Expires 2000

BUDGET COMMITTEE

James Annis, Chairman	Term Expires 1999
Gerna Magnusson	Term Expires 1998
Richard Campbell (appt until 1998 Town Meeting)	Term Expires 1998
Karen Roys	Term Expires 1998
Elaine Gagnon	Term Expires 1999
Alice Boucher	Term Expires 1999
Dennis Doten	Term Expires 2000
Donald Minor	Term Expires 2000
Kathy Francke	Term Expires 2000
Cathy Pierce, School Board	
Gail Tapply, School Board Alternate	
Louis Combe, Gunstock Acres V.W.D.	
Rudolph G. Lehr, Selectman	

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

William Akerley, Chairman	Term Expires 2000
Philip Brouillard	Term Expires 1998
Robert Walter	Term Expires 1999

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

John Goodhue, Chairman	Term Expires 2000
Douglas Hill	Term Expires 1998
Lee Duncan	Term Expires 1998
Paula McDonald, Alternate	Term Expires 1998
Benjamin Graves, Alternate	Term Expires 1998
Tom Drouin, Alternate	Term Expires 1998
Richard Foley, Alternate	Term Expires 1998
David Metz, Alternate	Term Expires 1999
Richard McKay, Planning Board	

PLANNING BOARD

Bruce Wright, Chairman	Term Expires 1998
Richard McKay	Term Expires 1998
Carolyn Scattergood	Term Expires 1998
Jerry Gagnon	Term Expires 1999
Albert Goulet	Term Expires 1999
Richard Katz, Alternate	Term Expires 1999
Richard Waitt, Alternate	Term Expires 2000
Phillippe Arel, Selectman	

RECREATION COMMISSION

Meg Jenkins, Chairman	Term Expires 1998
Thom Francoeur	Term Expires 1998
Fred Kacprzynski	Term Expires 1999
Corrine Demko	Term Expires 1999
Patrick Savage	Term Expires 2000

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Andrew Howe, Chairman	Term Expires 1999
Larry Routhier	Term Expires 1998
Arthur Tilton	Term Expires 1999
William Morrison	Term Expires 2000
Donald Chesebrough	Term Expires 2000
Richard Foley, Alternate	Term Expires 1998
Richard Weaver, Alternate	Term Expires 1999
John Vorel, Alternate	Term Expires 1999

GILFORD VILLAGE

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Elizabeth McDonald, Chairman	Term Expires 2000
David Copithorne	Term Expires 1998
Ruth Turner McLaughlin	Term Expires 1999
Kathy Francke	Term Expires 2000
Carolyn Scattergood, Planning Board	
Philip D. LaBonte, Selectman	

LAKES REGION INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

GILFORD REPRESENTATIVES

Roger Ellsworth	Term Expires 1997
Sheldon Kennedy	Term Expires 1998
Russell Dumais	Term Expires 1996

Two-Year Terms

INSPECTOR OF ELECTIONS

Rutha Helfrich	Term Expires 1998
Shirley Snow	Term Expires 1998
Barbara Carey	Term Expires 1998
Georgetta Wixson	Term Expires 1998

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Dean Eastman	Leo Sanfacon
Arthur Tilton	Tony Ferruolo
Donald Sibson	

OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Town Administrator	David Caron
Director of Finance	Geoffrey Ruggles
Chief of Police	Evans Juris
Director of Public Works	Sheldon Morgan
Director of Planning & Land Use	John Bobula
Highway Superintendent	Richard Petell
Director of Civil Defense	Sheldon Morgan
Health Officer	John Bobula
Building Official	David Andrade

OFFICIAL APPOINTED BY THE SELECTMEN
AND TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Joyce Papps
---------------------------------	-------------

OFFICIAL APPOINTED BY
THE TOWN TREASURER

Deputy Town Treasurer	Jennifer Carrier
-----------------------	------------------

OFFICIAL APPOINTED BY
THE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Library Director	Diane Mitton
------------------	--------------

OFFICIAL APPOINTED BY
THE BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

Fire Chief	Michael Mooney
------------	----------------

OFFICIAL APPOINTED BY THE
RECREATION COMMISSION

Director of Recreation	Susan King
------------------------	------------

ELECTED OFFICIALS OF
GUNSTOCK ACRES VILLAGE DISTRICT

Moderator	Craig Sikowski
Treasurer	Ronald Crepeau
Clerk	Terry Crawshaw
Commissioners	Steven LaBonte, Chairman
	Richard Piper
	Louis Combe

TOWN OF GILFORD TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY FIRE DEPARTMENT	911
POLICE DEPARTMENT	911
MEDICAL AID	911
Appraisal Department	524-3293
Building Inspector	524-6294
Conservation Commission	524-6294
Department of Planning & Land Use	524-6294
Fire Station (Business)	524-7500
Health Officer	524-6294
Highway Department	524-4313
Historic District Commission	524-6294
Landfill/Recycling Center	524-5535
Library	524-6042
Parks and Recreation Department	524-7438
Planning Board Office	524-6294
Police Business (Business)	524-5841
Public Works Department	524-6284
Selectmen's Office	524-7438
Sewer Division	524-6284
Town Administrator	524-7438
Town Clerk-Tax Collector	524-3286
Zoning Board of Adjustment	524-6294

**Activity Reports
of
Officers, Officials,
Boards, Committees
and
Commissions**

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The area's resurgent economy continued on the upswing in 1997 and as a result, we are pleased to report that the town's financial position is healthy and stable. The 1997 town portion of the tax rate is \$7.18 per thousand, less than the town portion of the 1989 rate. Once again we commend the dedication and enthusiasm in which town employees execute their duties and thank them for assisting us in maintaining the town's fiscal integrity. We urge your review of each department's activities in this town report.

As we look back on 1997, we take note of projects which will allow us to better serve the public, protect the community's financial future and enhance the quality of life for all residents. Acting on an appropriation at the 1997 Town Meeting, we are in the final stages of planning for the installation of a new telephone system which will connect most departments and allow us to publish phone numbers which offer citizen access to up-to-date information on recreational activities, notices of meetings, status of emergencies and other issues of town-wide importance. The system will also allow our employees to operate more efficiently by streamlining communications between departments and the public.

We completed and executed a Franchise Renewal Agreement with our local cable provider. We believe the agreement has been structured to benefit from the ever-changing federal rules and available technologies in today's society to maximize the use of this resource. We look forward to 1998 when operating procedures will be developed to offer video and broadcast curriculum at the Area 8 Vocational Center and public access opportunities on the local cable system.

A Five-Year Town Budget was nearing completion as 1997 ended. Not to replace Town Meeting, the five-year financial plan was designed as a tool to assist the town in forecasting rate. We will also be able to identify spending and revenue trends and take corrective action where necessary to avoid problematic areas.

Economic Development continues to be a prime objective as we continually search for ways to encourage job creation and economic development opportunities with our neighboring communities. We appreciate the townspeople's support and understanding of the necessary to make available diverse job opportunities in the community to maintain our quality of life.

We were pleased to sponsor several projects in the community in 1997 which extend services, improves the quality of life and allows for enjoyment of our natural resources. The town coordinated the extension of the municipal sewer to the Cherry Valley Condominiums by securing a Department of Environmental Services grant and low-interest loan for its residents. We encourage the expansion of the municipal sewer system wherever possible to safeguard our environment for our citizens and visitors. The Office of State Planning announced that the town was chosen

to receive a \$350,000 Community Development Block Grant to make infrastructure and utility improvements at the Mountain View Housing Cooperative. We anticipate that planning, design and construction will occur in 1998.

We also wish to acknowledge the efforts of Gilford Middle-High School students to understand and participate in town government. We thank Mr. Fitzpatrick's Social Studies classes for completing an inventory of town-owned or managed conservation land which provides the staff with an important management tool, and Mr. Hamblett's and Mr. Englebert's Science classes for participating in planning and environmental exercises. We applaud the school's efforts of connecting studies and responsibilities with town government as the next generation is prepared to guide and lead the growth and direction of our community.

Finally, we cannot emphasize enough the importance of volunteerism in the community. Whether it is service on ad-hoc committees such as the Rowe House or Kimball Wildlife Trails, or ongoing service on the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Budget Committee or any of the other local boards and commissions, we share the community's appreciation of volunteers' efforts and dedication of time to insure a local government responsive to the needs of its citizens.

As we write this report, the community is pulling together to repair the damage caused by a severe ice storm on January 7-9, 1998. There is probably no greater testament to Gilford's community spirit and the theme of "neighbor helping neighbor" than to witness the outpouring of support and assistance rendered to residents affected by the storm, some who went without electrical service for upwards of six days. We extend our thanks to all those from Gilford and the entire Lakes Region who assisted in the restoration of services during this most trying event.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip D. LaBonte, Chair
Phillippe A. Arel
Rudolph G. Lehr

Board of Selectmen

GILFORD APPRAISAL DEPARTMENT TOWN ASSESSOR'S REPORT

The Appraisal Office continually monitors sales of real estate in the Town, and makes comparisons of the sales prices to the assessments. Ideally, assessed values should be close to the market value of each property.

The last full revaluation of all properties in the Town occurred in 1993. Since then, the market has changed for some properties and, as a result, the assessments have changed as well. Not all properties change in value at the same time or at the same rate. Accordingly, appraisers from the Town Office visit properties that have sold to interview the buyers and the brokers and review the data on file to ensure that the indications of changes in market value are accurate, before proceeding with changed assessments.

Changes in assessments are not confined to just those properties that have sold. By analyzing legitimate sales of property, patterns emerge. For example, single-family homes may be stable while duplexes have decreased in value and certain waterfront properties increase, all at the same time. Therefore, it is not unusual to see assessments for some properties increased while others are decreased, and still others receive no change at all in any given year.

The point in all this is that the Town has a policy of making changes in assessments each year where the market activity indicates a change in market value. In 1993, during the last full revaluation, it was not unusual to see property taxes double on some properties while others were halved from what they were the year before. The Selectmen found this 10-year cycle of revaluations disturbing, given the impact upon individual taxpayers, and have charged our office to make certain these tremendous shifts in tax burdens not occur again.

While market values change dramatically over a 10-year period, they do not change that much in 2 to 3 year periods. By proceeding with annual reviews and changes in assessments where warranted by market activity, changes in assessments and taxes on individual properties are much smaller than 10-year cycles, thereby avoiding the tremendous shifts in tax burdens from one property class to another which are associated with 10-year revaluation cycles.

Taxpayers are reminded that the amount of taxes levied each year are controlled by the taxpayers at the annual Town Meeting. Accurate assessments merely ensure that each taxpayer is paying no more nor less than their proper share of the Town approved levy.

Our office understands that inspection requests can be inconvenient, however, we hope that it will be understood that such verification efforts help assure that assessments are not over or under-stated. To date, most all taxpayers have been gracious and accommodating with our requests,

and we wish to thank everyone for their patience and understanding with this process.

Our staff, Marilyn Gray, Janis Carruth, Ross Phelps and myself wish to thank all taxpayers, Selectmen, the Town Administrator, Department Heads and employees for their assistance and support of our efforts.

As always, we encourage all taxpayers to bring any and all questions concerning the assessment process to our attention. It is our sincere desire to be fair and honest with each taxpayer. We believe that an informed public, as well as an informed assessment staff, will serve the community as a whole in the fair and equitable distribution of the common tax burden.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wil Corcoran

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK-TAX COLLECTOR

Just when you think you cannot top another year, we did it in 1997! This year we registered more than 9,000 automobiles. Each year the numbers inch up another 300 or 400 hundred vehicles.

Any increase in the number of transactions done by this office translates to an increase in revenue to help offset the property tax rate. This year in the Town Clerk's Office we topped over one million dollars in revenue! That is an increase in revenue of approximately \$125,000 over 1996.

Dogs residing in Gilford take notice! Recent changes in the law requires the vet to notify the Town Clerk whenever you receive a rabies shot. The Town Clerk then checks to see if you have a dog license. If after notification you still do not obtain a dog license, the matter is turned over to the Police and will cost you a fine of \$25.00 in addition to the license fees. Please be sure to obtain your yearly license. The license expires May 1 of each year and that date is marked on your dog license. Nearly 1200 dogs were licensed in 1997, adding revenue of more than \$5,000.

Property taxes were again billed semiannually in 1997, along with quarterly sewer use bills, annual capital cost recovery bills, Gunstock Acres water bills, etc. Approximately 15,000 tax bills are mailed and collected annually. Total tax collections for 1997 are nearly 15 million dollars. Detail of activity for both the Office of Town Clerk and the Office of Tax Collector are in the financial reports section of this book.

Shirley Snow who graced this office for the past twenty years with her smiling face, humor and dedication retired on September 1. I know the taxpayers will miss her as much as we do. We wish her the best of luck, health and happiness on her retirement. Those of us left behind look forward to a busy and challenging 1998.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra E. Eastman, CMC/AAE
Town Clerk-Tax Collector

ANNUAL REPORT DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND LAND USE

The strength of the national economy in 1997 is clearly reflected in the overall activity statistics of the Planning Department. All categories are on an upward incline and it looks as if 1998 will at least keep it at this higher level.

To meet the demand for greater efficiency, the many different filing systems (which came from different sources when the department was created) are finally being converged into a unified system, allowing instant retrieval of all documents relating to every numbered parcel in Gilford. This project (combining approximately 12,000 files into about 6800) is estimated to be completed in 1998.

The sign ordinance enacted at the 1997 Town Meeting is now a year old and is an apparent success in allowing some increases where the business community needed it the most and simpler to administer than the one it replaced.

The statistical picture for 1997 is as follows:

<u>Office Contacts</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Telephone calls received	6449	6394	5796	5940
In person visits at offices	3442	3584	3641	3567
TOTAL CONTACTS	<u>9891</u>	<u>9978</u>	<u>9437</u>	<u>9507</u>

<u>Building Code Administration</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Building Permits (all types)	237	212	195	227
Plumbing/Electrical Permits	157	136	180	202
Sign Permits	46	50	53	35
Demolition Permits	12	11	8	12
Misc. Permits	6	4	3	2
Driveway Permits (DPW)	30	28	28	50
TOTAL PERMITS	<u>488</u>	<u>441</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>528</u>
Total declared value of construction	\$7,408,759	\$7,058,079	\$7,899,028	\$8,591,109

<u>Building Inspection Program</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Building Insp.(Found.Struct.Dim)	528	633	489	520
Electrical (rough, finish)	211	107	169	352
Plumbing (rough, finish)	142	73	100	275
Code Enf. (Zoning)	188	145	144	199
Health Code response	100	47	67	108
TOTAL FIELD INSPECTIONS	<u>1169</u>	<u>1005</u>	<u>969</u>	<u>1454</u>

Planning Board

Bruce Wright, Chair

Carolyn Scattergood, Vice-Chair

Jerry Gagnon, Secretary
 Phillippe Arel, Selectmen's Representative
 Richard McKay
 Albert Goulet
 Richard Waitt

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Site Plans processed	34	18	22	31
Tenancy applications heard	4	17	8	11
Subdivision applications heard	12	10	17	14
Master Signage Plan appl. heard	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTAL ALL CASES	50	45	47	59

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Andrew Howe, Chair
 Donald Chesebrough, Vice-Chair
 Arthur Tilton
 William Morrison
 Larry Routhier
 Richard Weaver, Alternate
 John Vorel, Alternate
 Richard Foley, Alternate

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Special Exceptions granted	4	6	4	7
Special Exceptions denied	0	0	0	0
Special Exceptions tabled	0	0	0	1
Variances granted	13	4	10	5
Variances denied	0	2	2	9
Variances tabled	2	0	0	2
Admin.Decision Appeals granted	0	0	0	1
Admin.Decision Appeals denied	1	1	1	3
Admin.Decision Appeals tabled	0	0	1	0
Rehearing Petition granted	0	0	0	2
Rehearing Petition denied	0	0	1	1
Equitable Waiver denied	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL CASES HEARD	20	13	19	32

Historic District Commission

Elizabeth MacDonald, Chair
 David Copithorne, Vice-Chair
 Philip LaBonte, Selectmen's Representative
 Carolyn Scattergood, Planning Board Representative
 Ruth McLaughlin

Kathy Francke

In 1997, the Historic District Commission reviewed and acted on 5 applications.

Conservation Commission

John Goodhue, Chair

Richard McKay, Planning Board Representative

Douglas Hill

Lee Duncan

Paula McDonald, Alternate

David Metz, Alternate

Tom Drouin, Alternate

Benjamin Graves, Alternate

The Commission processed 17 cases and performed numerous site inspections as required and participated in investigations relative to protection of prime wetlands and environmentally sensitive lands.

In closing, I acknowledge that the major reason for this smooth administrative flow of the department is the product of the dedicated work of the staff, David Andrade, Building Inspector, Code Official and Deputy Health Officer, Marsha Salmon, Administrative Assistant, and Carol Welch, Secretary. Special mention goes to Melissa Salmon, a student at Gilford Middle High School, who took on the implementation of the merger of thousands of files as a summer job and surpassed all expectations in this task.

Respectfully submitted,

John Bobula

Director

GILFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 1997

In this, my tenth annual report as the Chief of Police for our community, I report the following:

The department was awarded two grants in 1997 totaling \$10,864.30.

One grant was for \$10,000.00 from the N.H. Attorney Generals Office, which was used to enhance security at the Gilford Middle High School and Town Hall complex. Additionally, monies within this grant are earmarked for use by the Gilford Drugs and Alcohol Task Force.

The second grant was received from the N.H. Police Standards and Training Council for enhanced supervisory training in the amount of \$864.30.

The department continued to maintain its comprehensive training program in 1997. Sgt. James Leach graduated from the N.E. Law Enforcement Management School conducted at Babson College in Wellesley, MA. All officers were certified in the use of the new firearms that were purchased in 1997. The weapons upgrade was made after a three year study and provides our officers with adequate defense fire power.

Chief Evans Juris, Captain Joseph Schillinger and Lt. Edison Cowing attended a three day specialized training program conducted by the F.B.I. National Academy Associates which was held in Lincoln, N.H.

Officer Kevin Keenan was issued a "Looking Beyond the Traffic Ticket" award by the N.H. Police Standards and Training Council for a motor vehicle arrest that resulted in the apprehension of three individuals for felony theft.

Our elementary D.A.R.E. (Drug Awareness Resistance Education) Program entered into its ninth year. This program is conducted by Detective Kathleen Yale and Officer Kevin Keenan.

Additionally, our middle school D.A.R.E. Program entered its third year under Detective Yale's direction.

Detective Yale was also selected as New Hampshire's 1997 D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year in ceremonies conducted at the Governor's Office.

Officer Matthew Gray was promoted to the rank of Field Training Officer during 1997.

We continue to provide a number of Community Programs in the following areas: Seatbelt Safety, Halloween Safety, Child I.D. and Bicycle Safety. Assisting in these programs were personnel from both the patrol and communications units of the department. General coordination was provided by Officer Denise Miller and Detective Jeffrey Bonan.

The Town's only official Honor Guard displayed their new dress uniforms during 1997 also.

Calls for Service involving youth continue to be significant in numbers. In 1997 approximately 386 cases involving 285 youths were investigated.

Total calls for services requiring written reports decreased by about 1%. Three major areas of reports that decreased during 1997 were: burglaries, larcenies and simple assaults.

Increases that are of concern are in the area of forcible rapes, D.W.I. arrests and criminal mischief.

Auxiliary Officer Gordon Freeman passed away in early 1997. Officer Freeman was a familiar face at town elections and Old Home Day over the years. He is greatly missed.

In closing, on behalf of the Gilford Police Department, I would like to thank our community for its continued support in 1997. Also, "thank you" to the other Town Departments, as well as the administration and staff of the Elementary School and Middle High School.

Activity Report - December 31, 1997

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Telephone Calls Received (Dispatch)	27758	29240
Outgoing Telephone Calls (Dispatch)	5438	6014
Calls for Service	5835	5779
Cruiser Mileage	175015	161542
Criminal Homicide	0	0
Forcible Rape	1	5
Robbery	0	1
Aggravated assault	1	2
Burglary	45	30
Larceny	220	186
Auto Theft	17	10
Simple Assault	63	52
Arson	0	0
Embezzlement	2	0
Criminal Mischief	121	172
Prostitution	0	0
Drug Offenses	17	41
Gambling	0	0
DWI	31	47
Intoxications	51	68
Parking Tickets	71	147
Accidents (Motor Vehicle)	342 *	343 **
Traffic Tickets	2101	2136

* Includes (4) Fatal Accidents

** Includes (2) Fatal Accidents

Respectfully submitted,

Evans E. Juris
Chief of Police

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

This is my tenth year serving the community as your Public Works Director. With 1997 behind us and 1998 just beginning, we look back on a year of dedication and hard work. There was much to do in Public Works during 1997, there were many accomplishments, and some projects are ongoing into this current year.

We tend to not think too much about our solid waste, other than to remove it or have it removed; "out of sight, out of mind". In 1997 Gilford generated 5,629 tons. Because of this figure (approximately 1 ton per person) we strive to reduce our outgoing rubbish to the lowest possible amount. One way we use to reduce is through our recycling center, where Richie Stuart manages our operations of recycled items, brush, stumps and general yard debris. The following chart shows our activity in this area:

	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
	(ALL FIGURES IN TONS)				
Aluminum/tin cans recycled	7.11	6.23	7.18	7.91	6.38
Newspaper/magazines recycled	72.69	87.68	94.78	103.33	104.12
Combined glass recycled	32.50	47.50	30.00	26.00*	34.00
Total tonnage recycled	112.30	141.41	131.96	137.24	144.50

*Changed method of calculating

Brush/small wood incinerated	405,000	485,000	550,000	560,000	450,000
------------------------------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

(All figures are in cubic feet)

The area of highway maintenance continued to be an area that received much attention by both highway employees and citizens. Crews spend much of the year on improving and managing our many miles of drainage systems. Much of our older culvert is now in need of replacement due to years of heavy use. We are currently going through a multi-year replacement program that we hope will update and improve our town drainage systems. Along with this work, the men asphalt shimmed, chip sealed, cleaned ditches and patched approximately 10 miles of roadway, hoping to extend the life of these roads for a few more years before extensive rehabilitative work is required. This year saw the remainder of gravel roads in Gunstock Acres, along with a couple of selected gravel roads in other parts of town turn to blacktop (actually a reprocessed asphalt product).

Once again this year, the entire public works staff <office, highway, solid waste, building & grounds, sewer, vehicle maintenance> pulled together and performed to the fullest extent of their capacities to supply you with an extremely efficient operation. They are all to be complimented for doing their jobs so well, to the benefit of all. This past

year we experimented with a 4 day work week in Highway Operations. It was well received by the crew and it allowed us to complete projects in a timely fashion due to the extra 2 hours each day we worked rather than have to dedicate time to setting up and taking down of the work site. We worked Monday thru Thursday, 10 hours each day, for most of the summer.

Due to scheduling commitments with other communities, the perambulation with Gilmanton and Alton was postponed until the spring of 1998. Anyone wishing more information on this process is encouraged to call our office; we would be glad to explain the process further.

Building & Grounds saw the hiring of Mr. John Provencal as custodian for the town. John replaces various janitorial services that proved not as cost effective when gauged against a full time, on staff employee with dedication and commitment. We utilized janitorial services for six year with varying degrees of success. Since John has been with us, the town buildings never looked better inside.

William Sears who oversees our sewer division put many hours into repairing manholes around town, with skilled help and dedication from the highway crew. Numerous manholes were repaired utilizing various methods so that winter maintenance activities would not endanger them further. We tend to overlook certain aspects of daily operations because they run along so smoothly, this is one of those areas. Bill is beginning to think about retirement, so to make the transition of supervision a smooth one, he is creating an operations manual from the many things stored in his head over the last 23 years.

As always we supply our annual activities report for your review:

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Subsurface septic permits issued	28	55	40	44
Public Sewer hookups	30	12	10	18
Dig & Trench permits issued	16	15	9	9
Driveway permits issued	32	36	44	50
Request for Action forms processed	148	185	199	135

As 1997 comes to a close, it's important that we take a few minutes to thank all those that made 1997 a rewarding and productive time. Thank you to all our sister departments, commissions, committees and agencies. It's because of your help and direction that we are able to enjoy our work.

Public Works is open, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Highway Operations is open 7:00 am thru 3:30 pm. A thank you must go out to all the citizens of Gilford that helped us through the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheldon C. Morgan
 Director of Public Works

REPORT OF THE GILFORD FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

The Gilford Fire - Rescue Department has tried to maintain a high level of quality service for the residents and visitors to the Town of Gilford. Requests for emergency services remained consistent with that of 1996. While fire related incidents decreased slightly, there was unfortunately one fire related death and a significant injury this past year.

Each year the department spends a considerable amount of time involved in efforts to reduce the risk of accidental fires. Inspection programs for business properties are routinely conducted, home safety inspections are available on request, and an extensive fire prevention education program occurs within the school system. We can not stress enough the need to have properly operating smoke detectors in any building where people are sleeping. Smoke detectors should be installed as a minimum, one on each floor level and one in the area of the bedrooms.

This past year an effort was made to distribute refrigerator magnets with the 911 emergency number and a medical history sheet. These items are available at the fire station for people with a significant medical history that the ambulance personnel should be aware of.

The statistical breakdown of emergency calls for 1997 is as follows:

Structure Fires	27
Grass/Brush Fires	28
Vehicle Fires	7
Mutual Aid To Other Towns (Fires)	52
Hazardous Conditions Found	56
Miscellaneous Fires Incidents	18
Total Fire Incidents	191

System Malfunctions	55
Malicious False Alarms	3
Unintentional Alarm Activations	28
Miscellaneous Alarm Activations	6
Total Alarm Activations	92

Medical Emergencies	468
Motor Vehicle Accidents	62
Mutual Aid to Other Towns (Medical)	97
Miscellaneous Rescues	8
Total Medical Emergencies	635

Service Calls	119
Miscellaneous Emergencies	16
TOTAL RESPONSES	1,053

We would like to thank all of the other town departments and neighboring communities for their assistance and cooperation during this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Mooney
Chief of Department

William Akerley, Chairman
Philip Brouillard
Robert Walter
Board of Fire Engineers

REPORT OF TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER

To aid your Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department and State Forest Ranger, contact your local Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and the other burning in laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines of up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail. Violators are also liable for all fire suppression costs.

There are ten Forest Rangers who work for the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Protection Bureau. State Forest Rangers are available to assist communities with forest fire suppression, prevention and training programs as well as the enforcement of forest fire and timber harvest laws. If you have any questions regarding forest fire or timber harvest laws, please call our office at 271-2217.

There are 2400 Forest Fire Wardens and Deputy Forest Fire Wardens throughout the state. Each town has a Forest Fire Warden and several Deputy Wardens who assist the Forest Rangers with forest fire suppression, prevention, and law enforcement. The 1997 fire season was a safe period for wildland firefighters with no major injuries reported. The drought conditions experienced during the early summer months was a significant factor in controlling the size of wildland fires and keeping the loss of property and suppression costs as low as possible.

1997 FIRE STATISTICS

(All Fires Reported thru December 23, 1997)

<u>Fires Reported by County</u>		<u>Causes of Fires Reported</u>	
Belknap	58	Smoking	54
Carroll	96	Debris Burning	261
Cheshire	63	Campfire	99
Coos	29	Power Line	33
Grafton	51	Railroad	03
Hillsborough	145	Equipment Use	23
Merrimack	148	Lightning	14
Rockingham	54	Children	60
Strafford	63	OHRV	0
Sullivan	19	Miscellaneous	130
TOTAL FIRES	726	Incendiary	33
TOTAL ACRES	177.17	Fireworks	16

“REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES!”

Lee A. Gardner
Forest Ranger

Michael O. Mooney
Forest Fire Warden

REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

We are very pleased to present to you the following information which outlines our facilities, programs, activities, and services during 1997. While perhaps we did not reach all of our goals during the past year, we are proud of our accomplishments, and we hope you are as well.

As for our youth programs in 1997, our fall soccer program consisted of 14 teams with 165 boys and girls in grades 2 - 5 participating. Fifteen teams with 154 children in grades 3 - 6 competed in our youth basketball program. In March, we once again sponsored the Fourth Annual Aaron T. Francoeur Memorial Basketball Tournament. Thirteen area teams competed, with the proceeds going to scholarships for deserving GMHS graduating seniors. In July, the Major League Soccer Camp program was again brought to Gilford. The 6 English coaches provided a unique approach to the game for the 83 children who benefited from the week-long camp. In June and for their second year, Eric Stinson and Kevin Shaw offered the Gilford Soccer School program to approximately 85 young athletes in grades 6 - 12. Also in June, we had 110 children take part in the Shooter's Gold Youth Basketball Camp, under the direction of Plymouth State College Men's Basketball Coach Paul Hogan, his assistant coaches, and players. This was our sixth season of being able to offer this hoop camp to our kids in grades 2 - 8. The after-school sports program, co-sponsored with the Gilford Elementary School, saw another increase in the number of 4th and 5th graders enjoying four sessions/activities throughout the school year. Spanish was introduced to 15 kids in our after-school foreign language program. Offered in cooperation with Gunstock, our cross-country ski program got 30 kids out enjoying the snow. On the slopes and under the lights at Gunstock, we had 41 boys and girls take part in our downhill ski program. In a bit warmer weather, we had approximately 85 kids showoff their unique artistic abilities in our arts and crafts program at Gilford Beach. Swim lesson instruction was given to 360 kids in the course of our 6-week program. Once again, we were also able to offer a Lifeguard Training course for the development of future lifeguards. Instructors Peter Fagan, Curt Chesley, Jim Gray, and Gretchen Hart worked with approximately 50 children and adults in our expanded summer tennis lesson program. We hope to be able to offer a community-wide tennis tournament in 1998.

As for adult programs, the coed adult volleyball program continued to grow, and a Thursday evening session was added in order to handle the

increased number of participants. During June, July, and August, we again offered a coed over 30 adult softball program. In spite of hectic summer schedules, we had a total of approximately 27 adults take to the field. The Gilford Pairs and Spares, the senior adult group, continued to be active throughout the year, meeting regularly twice a month. We welcome and encourage new members to join the group. Our activities in 1997 included a Portsmouth Harbor cruise trip, a cookout at Gilford Beach, a Halloween Party, lunches at the Boathouse Grill Restaurant and Bonanza Restaurant, and a catered Christmas Party.

A variety of annual special events and activities were sponsored throughout the year. At our Easter Celebration, approximately 150 boys and girls came to see the Easter Bunny and to be "magically" entertained with a performance by Bob Higgins. Between 200 - 250 costumed children showed up at the GMHS gym to enjoy a variety of games and activities during our Halloween Party. The Vacation Fun Days, co-sponsored with the Laconia Parks and Recreation Department, were well attended during the February and April school vacation weeks. Activities included ice skating at the Gilford Ice Rink, swimming at the Gunstock Inn, and hiking the Lockes Hill Trails. The Bicycle Safety Rodeo in May, co-sponsored with the Police Department, got rained out on its original date. However, the rain date saw approximately 75 - 80 children come out to get their bikes inspected and licensed and to participate in a bicycle skills test.

The 1997 summer season at Gilford Beach was a sunny and safe one. In spite of a couple of outbreaks of the "swimmer's itch," it was a good season overall. We had many new faces amongst our staff of lifeguards/swim instructors, gatekeepers, and maintenance employees. For the most part, they performed their duties in a mature and professional manner throughout the summer. A number of rescues were made of adults as well as children who were attempting to swim out to the raft. We wish to remind everyone that while the lake is to be considered a great place for summer fun, we all need to be wary of our swimming capabilities and to know our limitations. A great way to wrap up our summer beach activities was, as always, the Gilford Beach Water Carnival. We had a beautiful, sunny day, and the staff filled the time with many exciting activities for one and all. Also, Jean Raso did another fine job feeding many hungry bodies while operating the beach concession stand.

On occasion, Mother Nature failed to cooperate with us and our ice-making efforts during the winter season at the Arthur A. Tilton Gilford Ice Rink. The fluctuating extremes in temperature sometimes caused us problems. The rink opened officially for the season on January 11 and

closed on March 23. Due to one lengthy warm spell, we were shut down for almost a week. Revenues from the supervised skating and rentals dipped to a total of \$1,273.00 for the entire season. In spite of all of this, we did have many days where our ice conditions were excellent, and our attendance was outstanding. We are keeping our fingers crossed for more steady, cold weather for the 1998 skating season.

The upkeep and maintenance of our other facilities - the Village Field, Stonewall Park, and Lincoln Park - continue to keep us busy. While challenging, it is exciting to see the heavy use that all of our facilities receive. We are looking forward to the eventual reconstruction of the Village Field tennis courts and basketball court in 1999. This past June, we leased a sand cleaning machine from the City of Laconia, and we used it to clean the beach. Then with the help of our Highway Department, we deposited 109 yards/15 loads of new sand onto the beach. As they do each year, the GMHS 7th grade class spent a day in June at Gilford Beach raking, cleaning, and staining picnic tables. In December, we received a \$2,500. award from the Fleet Bank All-Star Program as a result of this annual beach clean-up project. All the 7th grade classes and teachers at GMHS that have participated over the years in this annual community service project are to be commended for their extraordinary efforts. Our special thanks to all of you!

During 1997, we also made some progress on two very exciting projects. With the help of GMHS teacher Brian Fitzpatrick, we now have a finished copy of our community needs assessment survey. In 1998, we hope to disseminate the survey in order to identify our community's interests, desires, priorities, and opinions of our recreation programs, facilities, and resources. Also, with the help of a small but steady planning committee, we have come up with a proposed route for a recreation/bike path that will connect the Village area to Gilford Beach. During 1998, we hope to hold a variety of public meetings and committee meetings in order to continue to make progress with this tremendous undertaking. With both of these projects, we hope for strong community support.

We once again sponsored the series of summer concerts at the Village Field bandstand by our very own Gilford Community Band. We thank them sincerely for a great summer of entertainment!

The Parks and Recreation Commission meets monthly at the Town Hall, and the meetings are open to the public. We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding programs, activities, and facilities. We also offer a sincere and heartfelt thanks to all of the volunteers who give so generously of their time, talents, and energies to help with our endeavors throughout the year. Also, thanks to all of the local

businesses who help to sponsor and/or to donate to many of our programs and activities. We're glad you're here!

In closing, special thanks to the schools and the other Town Departments for all their help and cooperation throughout the year. We are pleased to have served the people of Gilford in 1997, we thank you for your continued support, and we look forward with great anticipation to

1998. Remember..."We don't stop playing because we grow old. We grow old because we stop playing."

Respectfully submitted,

Sue King
Parks and Recreation Director

Parks and Recreation Commission:
Meg Jenkins, Chairman
Fred Kacprzyński
Thom Francoeur
Pat Savage
Cory Demko

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN GILFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

1997 has seen a number of changes at the library. Athaline DeHart retired after 20 years of service to GPI. We miss Athaline's good spirits. Our new part-time librarian is Christine Randall whom we share with the Ashland Library.

This year we started renewing patron cards. This means we have been circulating on our automated system for five years! An exciting event for us was the awarding of a federal grant which will allow us to connect by fiber optic cable (to be installed by Community TV) to the Elementary and Middle High school. This permits the three libraries to share electronic resources from off-site. We will begin in 1998 to upgrade our system and network in preparation for the linking. We are also preparing to move into the Windows environment.

If you have been following events in the newspapers, you are aware that both at the Federal and the State level technology initiatives are in the works. The aim is to get all libraries on the Internet and using electronic information formats as quickly as possible. To this end we are writing policies and revising our long range technology plan. We welcome input from the public as to what you would like to see us offer. We also are looking to tap your expertise. For those of you who have technology expertise in the Internet, Desktop Publishing, etc., come and fill out a form at the library and we will get in touch with you.

The New Hampshire collection is nearly finished being cataloged and processed and Christine has begun to enter it into our database and into the NH State Library database. Shelving has been donated in memory of Addison Sandford. We hope that before long, the collection, housed in the loft, will be available to the public. Also housed in this area will be town reports, town histories and genealogy materials. All of the material in the New Hampshire Room will be non-circulating as this is a research collection.

For the first time in our history, we have circulated over 50,000 items in one year. Combined with in-library use of materials, this is a testimony to a dedicated staff and a strong collection of print and electronically formatted materials. The number of patrons enrolled is also at an all time high of 4553.

New computer tables, new audio racks, an instructional easel, and bean bag chairs are among the items purchased for the library by The Friends of the Library, under the leadership of Betty Tidd. Betty and a very dedicated board and group of volunteers have done a tremendous job this year in programming, fund raising and increasing membership. Call us at the library if you would like information about how to join this group.

In addition to all the advance in technology, our library maintains its "humans" touch. The children's story hour programs, and summer reading activity are enjoyed by many children. the NH Humanities

Council, as well as independent programs have offered stimulating book discussions and lectures for adults.

The Trustees would like to commend Diane Mitton, the Director of the Library, and her staff - Anita Hewitt, Judith Knowles, Judith Cott, and Christine Randall for their hard work and dedication. Computers are invaluable but it is the staff that provides the personal assistance and creates the welcoming atmosphere.

It is a challenging but exciting time for libraries. The changes are coming quickly and as we seek to integrate new electronic resources with traditional collections and to evaluate the bewildering proliferation of programs, resources and technology it can be somewhat daunting. We are grateful for your support and patience. OUR goal is to serve YOUR needs.

Polly Sanfacon, Chair of Library Trustees
Diane Mitton, Library Director

LIBRARY STATISTICS

COLLECTION RECORDS FOR 1997

		TOTAL
Volumes	28,037	
Video Cassettes	546	
Audio Cassettes	605	
Compact Disks	86	
NH collection (partially cataloged)	est. 846	
Professional	45	
CD ROM program	20	
Storage	300	
Not cataloged	150	
Total number of items in collection		30,635

CIRCULATION RECORDS FOR 1997

Number of items circulated		52,324
Interlibrary loans borrowed	639	
Interlibrary loans loaned	490	

PATRON RECORDS FOR 1997

Adult	2959	
Juvenile	803	
Summer	252	
Non-Resident	233	
Temporary	16	
Misc.(Staff,trustees,ILL lib,etc)	297	
Total number of patrons		4560

PROGRAM RECORDS FOR 1997

Adult Programs	19	
Number of attendees	442	
Children's programs (inc. story hour)	103	
Number of attendees	1549	
Total program offered	122	
Total attendees		1991

LIBRARY RECORDS FOR NON-APPROPRIATED FUNDS

Balance as of December 31, 1996 **\$4,949.68**

Receipts from interest	200.09
Receipts from fines	1,365.30
Receipts from gifts	5,223.17
Receipts from copier	970.07
Receipts from trust funds	410.00
Receipts from miscellaneous	1,169.05
Receipts from children's fund	1,778.67
Receipts from NH Humanities Council	1,196.24
Receipts from matching technology grant	13,000.00

1997 Income 25,312.59

Less expenditures

Interest (gifts, travel, etc.)	151.70
Fines (books and AV material)	810.48
Gifts (memorial and reference books, shelving)	2,504.49
Trust funds (Remick 179.50 Smith 305.59)	
Misc. (leased audio books programs, advertisements, etc)	1,405.22
Children's fund	1,640.75
NH Humanities Council (programs)	1,196.24
Transfer to savings (Technology grants and memorial funds)	15,000.00
Total expenses	\$23,193.97

Balance as of December 31, 1997 **\$7,068.30**

Passbook savings (technology grant, memorial funds)	\$15,147.60
Helen Howe Memorial Funds	\$7,341.26
Lucile Allen Memorial Funds	\$19,389.57

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE GILFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library Board of Trustees acknowledges with appreciation the services of out-going Board member, Mina Ayers, and to welcome new member, Barbara Harris.

One of the main focuses of the Trustees is to help the Library cross the "bridge to the twenty-first century". We have moved in that direction by automating the circulation and catalog system. This system has been up and running well for several years. In addition, public access CD-ROM programs are getting much use from both the adults and the children of the community. We are currently working on long-range plans for further technology implementation. Some staff members have attended workshops on data-base searching, Windows, and the Internet.

As those of you who use the library regularly know, shelving space continues to be a concern. The staff is continuously "weeding" the collection in order to create space for new materials. In the Librarian's report, you will note that while circulations continues to increase, the number of items owned must stay relatively stable. In time, the well-used Reading Room will have to be utilized as stacks.

The recently reorganized Friends of The Gilford Library continues to respond to our needs. The Trustees and the staff would like to thank the Friends for their support, and to urge community members to join this active group.

Edward Merski, Chairperson
Polly Sanfacon
Barbara Harris

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

The Trustees of the Trust Funds are responsible for the investment and disbursement of Cemetery Trust Funds, Capital Reserve Funds and various small Trust Funds. Disbursements from the Capital Reserve Funds can be made only as a result of a Town Meeting vote.

The interest from the various Cemetery Trust Funds is applied to the various individual Trusts. Of the income, 75% is allocated to pay for the maintenance of the Cemeteries (Pine Grove and McCoy) while the balance of the income remains in the Trust Funds to insure that there will be sufficient funds to maintain the cemeteries in good condition in the future.

Capital Reserve Funds are invested in separate funds according to the purpose for which the reserve was established. Miscellaneous Trusts are handled in the same manner as Cemetery Trust Funds.

Having been somewhat dissatisfied with the maintenance work performed by the contractor at the "abandoned cemeteries" in town, the Trustees changed contractors in 1997 with good results. The matter of abandoned cemeteries was discussed at Town Meeting in 1997 at which time the Trustees indicated that a change was proposed.

Any person wishing to receive further information may contact the Trustees through the Town Administrator's Office.

Any recommendations or suggestions concerning the beautification of these areas will be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

George A. Sawyer, Chairperson
Milo F. Bacon
Emily P. Hanscom

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF PUBLIC WELFARE

During the 1997, 25 single folks and 56 families, representing another 179 persons were directly assisted by financial relief, counseling, or information and referral services. Hardship and problems this year have included family discord, illnesses, folks just moving through town, and a large number of unemployed families, many of whom have never before had to seek assistance.

Most of these folks, have also received State-Federal Welfare Assistance in the form of checks, medicaid, food stamps and social services (524-4485). Federal Supplemental Security Income checks also help some persons with handicaps and others in low income families (224-1938). The Julia Ladd Fund "for the worthy poor" is administered by the Trustees of the Trust Funds. An excellent resource list of helping agencies is found on pages 41-44 of our 1997 NYNEX telephone directory.

There is an Energy Assistance Program at the Belknap County Community Action Center where money is still available (524-5512). It also maintains a Food Pantry for emergencies. The St. Vincent de Paul Society also operates a food pantry along with its thrift store on Union Avenue (528-5683).

The Model Welfare Guideline, updated 1992 Edition, of the New Hampshire Municipal Association is the example for our own Gilford Welfare Guidelines earlier adopted by the Selectmen. These, used with understanding and discretion, best express our concern of "helping neighbors to help themselves."

Again, for any questions, or for a neighbor who might need assistance, please get in touch through the Town Office (524-7438) or at home (293-4990). Let us all continue to share our blessings throughout this year.

Thank you.

William M. Connelly, II, A.C.S.W.
Clinical Social Worker

REPORT OF THE GILFORD OLD HOME DAY COMMITTEE

Saturday, August 23, 1997 - No one was happier to see the sun shining than the Gilford Old Home Day Committee! The theme for this year's celebration was "OUTER SPACE - OUR FUTURE FRONTIER," saluting the adventures of space exploration and distant galaxies. The Parade Grand Marshal was John C. Evvard, and we dedicated the day to the memory of Reverend Raymond C. Wixson. For another year, the Rotary Club pancake breakfast and the parade kicked off the day's festivities. The parade was filled with some very imaginative floats, bands, marchers (two and four-legged!), antique and classic vehicles, bikers, etc.. By noontime, the Village was alive with activities at the Library, the Community Church, the Meeting House Museum, the Mt. Belknap Grange, the Rowe House, and the Village Field. The Frustration Hill Jazz Band played from the bandstand while everyone had a chance to check out all the food, craft, and game booths. After Master of Ceremonies Bob Pomeroy announced the parade results, the Laconia Judo Club put on a demonstration, and the NH Astronomical Society had their telescopes set up for solar observing. As the afternoon went on, the crowd enjoyed a performance by Rick Adams/Heart of Gold Vaudeville Company, and many laughs were had with the traditional games and field events, the pie-eating contest, and the egg toss. After Piche's 20th Annual Road Race took off, things quieted down at the Village Field for a bit. However, it wasn't long before the crowd started returning to the field for the evening's activities. The GES Basic Black '97 Children's Theater Program entertained the crowd with songs and scenes from their summer musical review entitled "Generations." As their performance ended, a group of parachutists from Sky Dive Lebanon thrilled and amazed everyone as they floated down to the field. The Gilford Community Band got everyone in the mood with their lively concert, and then at 9:00 PM, our biggest fireworks display ever lit up the skies! Part way into the show, we all had a scare as one of the Atlas pyrotechnicians, Charlie St. Clair, was injured. As Committee members, we all held our breath as our Fire-Rescue squad transported him off the field, and the other technicians carried on with the show. The next day, we were all relieved to hear that Charlie was treated and released and that he would be fine. WHEW!! Keeping with tradition, we finished off the day with a dance under the Entertainment Tent, featuring Warren Bailey. At about 12:30 AM, we finally closed out the 78th Annual Gilford Old Home Day - and what a day it was!

We wish to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to all who helped to make this very special annual event happen. Plans are already underway for the 1998 celebration, scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 1998. If you would like to be on the Committee or to volunteer in any way, please call the Parks and Recreation Department Office at 524-7438. Ideas and suggestions are also welcome. Be sure to mark your summer calendars now for August 29!

Respectfully submitted,
Gilford Old Home Day Committee

REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON DRUG/ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION

The Gilford Task Force on Drug/Alcohol Abuse prevention was organized in 1989 to address the issues of drugs and alcohol in our community.

The Task Force is comprised of town officials, the Gilford Police Department, community leaders, educators, parents, students, representatives of area social service agencies, and members of the general public.

The mission of the Task Force is to unify community agencies and professional resources to provide community based, early prevention programs, and intervene for individuals at risk.

During 1997, the Task Force provided forums for the discussion of the abuse of drugs, alcohol, and underage tobacco use in our community.

The Task Force, in cooperation with the Gilford Parent Teachers Association, endorses "Safe Homes", a pledge by parents to provide a safe home, free from alcohol and drugs. Included here is a pledge form. Please join in our efforts to maintain a drug-free community by participating in "Safe Homes". The pledge form may be returned to the Gilford Elementary School, Gilford Middle High School, or the Selectmen's Office.

If you are interested in working with the Task Force, please contact the Gilford Board of Selectmen at 524-7438.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra T. McGonagle
Chair

SAFE HOME PLEDGE

I PLEDGE to provide a safe home...

- I will not allow parties or gatherings in my home when I'm not there.
- I will not serve, nor will I allow youth under the legal drinking age to consume alcohol in my home or on my property.
- I will not allow the use of illegal drugs in my home or on my property.
- I agree to have my name appear on a Safe Homes list for distribution and publication in area newspapers.
- I will not allow the use of tobacco products under the age of 18 in my home.

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Children's grade levels _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Return this form to:

Gilford Elementary School
Gilford Middle High School
Gilford Town Hall

____ Please send me a list of others in our area who have signed the Safe Homes Pledge.

GILFORD LAND CONSERVATION TASK FORCE

The Land Conservation Task Force was authorized by the Gilford Town Meeting and charged by the Board of Selectmen to inventory and identify areas of the community which, by preservation, would maintain Gilford's rural character and scenic beauty, while simultaneously protecting our natural resources.

During the last few years, many acres have been preserved in Gilford through the NH Land Conservation Program and the generous donation of conservation easements from local residents.

In recent years, the Town has benefitted from donations of conservation easements from the Gary Allen family, the Parkman Howe family, the Weeks Woods in memory of Robert Weeks, John Rogers and the Daniel B. Rogers Trust, Arthur Tilton, and the Muehlke family. These families are to be commended for their generosity and for preserving the land for years to come. On behalf of the citizens of Gilford, we express our thanks to them.

Please contact the Task Force or the Gilford Board of Selectmen to discuss the advantages in the donation of land for conservation purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra T. McGonagle, Chair
Douglas Hill
Arthur Tilton
David Witham
Parkman Howe

REPORT OF THE THE BENJAMIN ROWE HOUSE

Throughout the spring and summer, members of the Rowe Committee and volunteers replaced windows, stained the ell, and painted, re-painted the doors of the building. The Committee inventoried the needs of the building to become a "maintenance only" structure, and presented a report to the Selectmen for a reformulation of the charge to the Rowe Committee; its charge of 1991 having been fulfilled.

Old Home Day was again a great success; with parrots, Kathy. Salanitro's oxen, Esmeralda, the popular gypsy fortune teller; chili, baked beans, fresh corn, free beer...tomorrow, and a new past-time: "cast your own" pewter figures.

The Committee hopes to finish the last phase of the interior restoration, and reconstruct the west porch by Old Home Day 1998. It is also working with the Historic District Commission to obtain a grant for the funding of The Rowe House nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. New members are always welcome...please join us.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Tilton, chairman
Kathy Francke, Project co-ordinator
Ellen Molnar, finances
Phil Arel
Julie Connelly
Elaine Gagnon
Gloria Mull
Elaine Riel

KIMBALL WILDLIFE FOREST COMMITTEE

The Kimball Wildlife Forest Committee was established by the Board of Selectmen in May, 1990, with a charge to address the "remaining land" at Kimball Castle, which includes all the land of the Kimball Castle property, excluding 20 acres surrounding the Castle.

In 1991, the Committee, with the assistance of Sumner Dole (technical advisor from the UNH Cooperative Extension), the Shock Incarceration Unit, and the Gilford Department of Public

Works completed two miles of trails on the property.

The trails were formally opened to the public in the Spring of 1992. The trail system starts approximately 100 feet from the entrance to the parking area off Route 11. The trail is marked by blue rectangles with interpretive stations indicated by numbers. It is estimated that nearly 600 hikers a week make the trek to the top of Lockes Hill during the summer. Schools in the area make use of the trails for science and ecological studies, as well as the study of local history. Trail guides may be obtained from the Selectmen's office, Gilford Public Library, or at the site.

In 1997, projects included trail improvements and additional signs. A timber harvest was conducted on the westerly side of Kimball Castle with additional trail development planned in 1998. With the assistance of Gary Allen, the Committee intends to pursue the development of cross country trails on the site.

Anyone interested in working with the Kimball Wildlife Forest Committee, please contact the Board of Selectmen at 524-7438.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandria T. McGonagle

Sumner Dole

Arthur Tilton

Joan Veazey

William Veazey

Joel Sonnabend

Bob and Jan Dean

Gary Allen

Wayne Breton

Muriel Johnson

Town of Gilford, New Hampshire
Annual Town Meeting
March 11, 1997

The polling place was readied with instructions in the booths. Copies of sample ballots, instructions, a copy of the town warrant and a list of absentee ballots received were posted.

Inspectors of Elections returning were Shirley Snow and Barbara Carey. William Dowling, Ann Lacroix and Allen Whitney were sworn in as Inspectors of Elections for the day. Moderator Peter Millham appointed Wayne Snow as Assistant Moderator and he was given the oath of office by the Town Clerk.

Due to illness and resignation, the Supervisor of the Checklist was Carolyn Smith. Moderator, Peter Millham appointed Dorothy Kereage as Supervisor of the Checklist to fill a vacancy. Dorothy Kereage was given the oath of office by the Town Clerk.

The Moderator signed a receipt for 1380 town and school district ballots.

The Optech vote tabulating machine had been previously tested by the Assistant Moderator and Town Clerk and shown to be in working order. The Moderator inspected the ballot box and found it to be empty. The tape clearing the machine to zero was run by the town clerk and the ballot box locked.

The Moderator gave instructions to the Inspectors of Elections and began to read the town warrant as follows: "To the inhabitants of the Town of Gilford in the County of Belknap in the said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:". . .

He was interrupted by Wayne Snow who made a motion that articles 1 and 2 and amendments 1, 2 and 3 and article 3 be acted upon at this time and then the Town Meeting shall be adjourned until Wednesday, March 12, 1997 at 7 p.m. in the Gilford Middle High School Auditorium for action upon the remainder of the warrant. It was seconded by Allen Whitney. The Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the moderator declared the article carried. At that time he opened the polls for voting.

The Moderator gave a receipt to the town clerk for 86 absentee ballots. At 2 p.m. after having received absentee ballots returned through the mail that day, Assistant Moderator, Wayne Snow and Moderator, Peter Millham processed the absentee ballots. A red "AV" was marked on the checklist beside the name of the voter to indicate the person had already voted absentee. There were 86 absentee ballots processed.

There were 5,528 names on the checklist and there were 14 new voters registered by the Supervisors of the Checklist during the day. The total votes cast were 1111, including the 86 absentees processed. The polls were closed at 7 p.m.

The election results are as follows:

SELECTMEN:

JOSEPH HOFFMAN	239
RUDOLPH LEHR	817 (ELECTED)
WRITE INS:	
William Akerley	1
Norm Soucy	1

TOWN TREASURER:

GREGORY M. DICKINSON	1021 (ELECTED)
WRITE INS:	
Joe Hoffman	1
Ken Wilson	1
Tim Sullivan	1
John Markland	1
Barry Shea	1

OVERSEER OF PUBLIC WELFARE:

WILLIAM CONNELLY	952 (ELECTED)
WRITE INS:	
Milo Pike	1
Gary Liptak	1
Grace Herbert	1
George Heilshorn	1

SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST:

DOROTHY KEREAGE	955 (ELECTED)
WRITE INS:	
Bill Dowling	1
Denise Soucy	1

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC LIBRARY:

EDWARD A. MERSKI	981 (ELECTED)
WRITE INS:	
John McGonagle	1

FIRE ENGINEER:

WILLIAM R. AKERLEY	599 (ELECTED)
SCOTT K. HOPKINS	327

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS:

MILO BACON	946 (ELECTED)
WRITE INS:	
Donald Minor	1
Robert Stinson	1
Greg Dickinson	1

BUDGET COMMITTEE THREE YEAR TERM:

(VOTE FOR THREE)

DENNIS DOTEN	781 (ELECTED)
KATHY FRANCKE	787 (ELECTED)
DONALD MINOR	741 (ELECTED)

WRITE INS:

Joe Hoffman	3
Bill Roderick	2
Gordon Denley	1
Karen Whitten	1
Gerard Dour	1
William Akerley	1
Lee Duncan	1
Larry Guild	1
Karen Roys	1
Dave Horvath	1
Evans Juris	1
Peter Millham	1
Bill Dowling	1
John McGonagle	1
Sandra McGonagle	1
Mike Cozort	1
George Wickon	1

BUDGET COMMITTEE TWO YEAR TERM:

(VOTE FOR ONE)

ALICE BOUCHER	609 (ELECTED)
RICHARD H. CAMPBELL	380

WRITE INS:

Tom Kirrane	1
Lee Duncan	1

BUDGET COMMITTEE ONE YEAR TERM:

KAREN ROYS	903 (ELECTED)
------------	---------------

WRITE INS:

Alice Boucher	1
Joe Hoffman	1
Richard Pierce	1

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to approve an amendment to the Town's Zoning Ordinance, Zoning Map and Historic District Regulations, as follows: AMENDMENT #1. Are you in favor of adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town's Zoning Ordinance as follows: "Delete the existing sign ordinance (Article #8) and, in its place, insert a new Article #8 containing a comprehensive scheme of sign regulations; also, amend Article #3 (Definitions) by deleting the existing definitions of the terms

“buildings” and “sign” and in their place insert new definitions of those terms; and add definitions for the terms “building front,” “director,” “person,” “banner,” “non-conforming use, lot or structure, protected,” and “fuel station.”

YES 717 NO 231

AMENDMENT #2. Are you in favor of adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Board of Selectmen for the Town’s Zoning Ordinance as follows: “To prohibit gambling in the Town of Gilford with the exception of activities conducted by the State of New Hampshire or charitable organizations.” (The Planning Board approves the adoption of this article.)

YES 750 NO 284

AMENDMENT #3. Are you in favor of adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by petition for the Town’s Zoning Ordinance as follows: “To see if the Town of Gilford should amend its official zoning map by converting a certain part of the Limited Residential (LR) to Resort Commercial (RC) District which area is located between Cherry Valley Road (Rte. 11A) and Area Road and the Belknap County Recreation Area (Gunstock Ski Area) and encompass the following parcels identified on the Gilford Tax Map: 1. Map 254 lots #92, #93, #94, #95, #132, #133, #135, & #136. This amendment to the Official Zoning Map of Gilford, should be amended because lot 95 is commercial and lots 92, 94 & 132 are business enterprises. Leaving lots 94, 133, & 135 & 136 that are not.” (By petition) (Recommended by Planning Board.)

YES 715 NO 256

ARTICLE #3. “ Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the town of Gilford, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$30,000; for a person 75 years up to 80 years, \$45,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$60,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person’s spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more that \$18,500 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$26,500 and own assets not in excess of \$90,000 excluding the value of the person’s residence.”

YES 776 NO 185

SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION, MARCH 11, 1997

SCHOOL DISTRICT MODERATOR:

JOHN S. KITCHEN	934
WRITE INS:	
Peter Millham	5
Bill Dowling	1

SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER:

EDGAR A. KENNY	932
WRITE INS:	
Greg Dickinson	1

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK:

KATHY FRANCKE	850
WRITE INS:	
Carol Scattergood	1
Karen Whitten	1
John Hoffman	1
Karen Bianco	1
Carey Demko	1
Carlee Nichols	1

SCHOOL BOARD: (VOTE FOR TWO)

KENT BARON	641 (ELECTED)
EDWARD A. BICKFORD	449
CARRYL KROHNE	544 (ELECTED)
DOUGLAS J. LAMBERT	395
WRITE INS:	
Pamela Hayes	1
Pam Cote	1

SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION: "Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Gilford School District?"

YES 564 NO 473 (DEFEATED)

Respectfully submitted,

Debra E. Eastman, CMC/AAE
Town Clerk-Tax Collector

Town of Gilford, New Hampshire
Recessed Town Meeting
March 12, 1997

The recessed town meeting was called to order with Moderator, Peter V. Millham in the chair at 7 p.m. at the Gilford Middle High School auditorium. Seated on the stage were Selectmen, Russ Dumais, Philip Labonte, Phil Arel and Town Administrator, David Caron. On the other side of the stage were Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten and Town Clerk-Tax Collector, Debra Eastman.

Moderator Millham read the prior day's election results. He then explained the basic rules by which he intended to run the meeting. He explained that there was going to be a bond issue ballot and that the polls would remain open for 1 hour. He explained that there was also three petitioned articles and it had been agreed that all three could be balloted on at once after the close of the balloting for the bond issue. The Moderator announced the names of the microphone runners and thanked them for helping. He also announced the upcoming play.

Selectman Philip Labonte made a presentation of a plaque to outgoing Selectman, Russ Dumais and thanked Dumais for his nine years of service as a Selectman of the Town of Gilford. Police Chief, Evans Juris also presented a plaque to Selectman, Dumais for serving as a "commissioner" of the Police Department.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000 for the purpose of preparing plans and specifications, securing easements and for the construction of the Cherry Valley Condominiums Interceptor Sewer that will qualify the Town for federal and state funds, such sum to be repaid by an annual Betterment Assessment Charge to owners of properties improved by said collector sewer, to be raised by the issuance of bonds or notes, and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the terms and conditions, in compliance with the provisions of Municipal Finance Act, and to authorize the Selectmen to implement a Betterment Assessment Charges as shall be in the best interest of the Town, in addition to participate in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) RSA 486:14 established for this purpose, and to allow the Selectmen to expend such monies as become available from the federal and state governments and pass any vote relating thereto. (Requires 2/3 vote and written ballot, polls to remain open at least 1 hours after discussion has ended.) (Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee.)

The Moderator read article four. He explained that it needs a 2/3 vote for passage. Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten moved the article and it was seconded. Town Administrator, David Caron explained the article and stated that the land owners involved would pay a betterment assessment for twenty years to repay the Town of Gilford.

Mark Wright questioned the sewer use by Gunstock Area. It was

explained that Gunstock already has a sewer extension for which they are billed.

Mark Labonte inquired if the two houses between the sewer line and the condos would be included and was told yes by Dave Caron.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator once again instructed the participants in the procedure of voting and the polls opened at 7:23.

Once those in the room had voted, the Moderator continued with the warrant articles while holding the polls open for anyone wishing to vote.

Article 5. To see if the Town will repeal Article 16 created and proposed by through the Selectmen and their selected staff and approved at the Town Meeting March 1994.

Article 16 should be repealed and the Town of Gilford reinstate the State RSA 80:80 I-Transfer of Tax Lien. "No transfer of an tax lien upon real estate acquired by a town or city as a result of the execution of the real estate tax lien by the tax collector for nonpayment of taxes thereon shall be made to any person by the municipality during the 2-year period allowed for redemption, nor shall title to any real estate taken by a town or city in default of redemption be conveyed to any person unless the town, by majority vote at the annual meeting, or city council by vote, shall authorize the selectmen or the mayor to transfer such lien or to convey such property by deed." (By petition of Joseph F. Hoffman and others.)

The Moderator read article 5. He referred to Joseph Hoffman for a motion. Mr. Hoffman began to speak off the subject of the article on the floor. Moderator Millham asked Mr. Hoffman if he intended to make the motion. After Moderator Millham explained that this was an appropriate time to make a motion, Mr. Hoffman moved article 5. It was seconded.

Moderator Millham explained that under the basic rules set up at the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Hoffman had 10 minutes to explain his motion.

Mr. Hoffman talked about the previous sale of the Old Glendale Fire Station and the purchase of tax deeded property by Heather Labonte. When Mr. Hoffman's time was up, the Moderator recognized Robert Jordan. Mr. Jordan pointed out that this is a same issue that was discussed last year and was overwhelmingly defeated last year and moved the question. It was seconded.

The Moderator explained that moving the question would cut off debate and was not open for discussion. He further explained that moving the question requires a 2/3 vote. The Moderator called for the vote to move the question by voice. It was a resounding yes and the Moderator declared the motion carried.

The moderator read article 5 in part again. He called for the vote on article 5 and it was defeated.

The Moderator then requested that a procedural motion be made that the vote on article 6 and 7 be deferred until after the discussion of article

11 and that article 11 be moved up in order to be discussed immediately following the discussion of article 7, so that article 6, 7, and 11 can be voted on by ballot concurrently after the discussion of article 11. It was moved and seconded. There being no discussion, the Moderator called for the vote and it was carried.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to have the members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Conservation Commission members be elected by ballot as prescribed by law (RSA 669:17V) rather than appointed by the Board of Selectmen. We request this article be voted on by secret ballot. (By petition of Joseph F. Hoffman and others.)

Moderator, Peter Millham read article six. Joseph Hoffman moved article 6. It was seconded. Mr. Hoffman explained that he would like to see members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Conservation Commission elected and that having them appointed by the Selectmen leads to the appearance of impropriety. Mr. Hoffman further stated what he believed to be violations against Airport Country Store and asked that the meeting approve this motion.

Larry Routhier stated that this same issue was discussed last year and it was defeated and he moved the question. It was seconded. The Moderator called for the vote on moving the question. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared that the motion to move the question had passed. He further explained as per the prior motion, the voting on article six would occur later in the meeting.

Article 7. Term Limits - All elected officials of the Town shall not serve more than two consecutive terms (6 years). This shall apply to incumbents at the time of passage. We request this article be voted on by secret ballot. (By petition of Joseph Hoffman and others.)

The Moderator read article 7. Joseph Hoffman moved article 7 and it was seconded. Mr. Hoffman explained that he felt this article was necessary due to some service by officials up to 20 years.

Gary Francke asked about the history of service by the Selectmen and were there any that served 20 years. Moderator Millham stated that he has served for 20 years.

John Stephenson spoke in opposition to term limits and praised Moderator Millham for his service to the Town.

Rich Briggs stated that this is again an article that was defeated last year at town meeting and moved the question. It was seconded.

The Moderator called for the vote on moving the question and it was in the affirmative.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to establish a limitation of taxes (the total of town, school and county) levied and collected of no more than 2.5% on assessed valuation. (By petition of William Dowling and others.)

The Moderator read article 11. William Dowling moved article 11. It was seconded. William Dowling explained that he feels people are resistant to purchasing property in Gilford due to increased taxes as well

as other reasons. He urged the passage of the motion.

Selectman Russ Dumais explained that he appreciates what Mr. Dowling was trying to do but wished to read a portion of a letter from town counsel regarding article 11. Basically the letter stated that the article itself was illegal since a NH municipality does not have the authority to establish a tax cap even on its own expenditures. He further stated that since the tax rate includes the town, school and county tax rates this would create another level of illegality. He stated the best way for voters to have their say on spending is to vote on each and every article within the warrant.

Wayne Domin questioned the attorneys letter and how could other towns impose a cap as stated by Mr. Dowling. Mr. Dowling answered that he believed Bedford has a 3% cap.

Robert Jordan explained that NH does not have home rule and we must have authorizing state law to enact local rules. He questioned what formula would be used to separate the percentage of increase to town, school and county.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator announced that the balloting on articles 6,7 and 11 would take place after the close of the polls on the bond issue, article 4 and proceeded with article 8.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote that no Law Firm and/or their associates be contracted as Town Council for more than two (2) years; for every ten (10) year increment. (By petition of Joseph Hoffman and others.)

The Moderator read article 8. Joseph Hoffman moved article 8 and it was seconded. Mr. Hoffman explained article 8. Selectman Phil Arel spoke in opposition. He stated the town currently has one law suit that has gone on for 5 years. To change law firms would create undo hardship and be costly to the taxpayers to start over with a new firm each time.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator read the article and called for the vote. The vote was in the negative and the Moderator declared the article defeated.

Article 9. That the Town produce Cole-Layer-Trumble's (CLT) (Appraisal Firm) readable printout of final figures turned over to the Town on October 21, 1993. (By petition of Joseph Hoffman and others.)

The Moderator read article 9. Joseph Hoffman moved article 9 and it was seconded. Mr. Hoffman explained that he wanted a copy of final appraisal figures and claimed that this has been denied to him. He cited examples of what he called selective and discriminatory assessing.

William Akerley stated he felt Mr. Hoffman was promoting unnecessary litigation and doing the town a dis-service.

Town Administrator, Dave Caron explained the process of the revaluation and the evolution of various lists. Mr. Hoffman disputed Mr. Caron's statements and threatened legal action.

Dick Pierce asked if the data base exists that Mr. Hoffman is

requesting. Dave Caron stated it was available for reading and was at the town hall. Mr. Pierce asked if Mr. Hoffman could procure a copy and Dave Caron answered yes.

Mr. Hoffman reiterated what he had previously stated. There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative.

Richard Campbell requested a division. The Moderator then called for the vote again. He asked that those in the affirmative stand and appointed counters to count them. He did the same for the negative vote. The final vote was : 83 affirmative, 57 opposed. The moderator declared the article carried.

Being 8:23 the polls were now closed on Article 4 bond issue. The Moderator declared them closed and asked Assistant Moderator, Wayne Snow to count the ballots.

Article 10. Code of Ethics. The Moderator explained that this article was quite lengthy. It was moved and seconded that the Moderator not have to read the whole article. The vote on that motion was in the affirmative.

Joseph Hoffman moved article 10 and it was seconded. Mr. Hoffman explained he felt no one should be against a code of ethics and that every town, city and club has one.

Richard Campbell spoke in opposition to the code of ethics and feels an honest person doesn't need one and with a dishonest person it would not matter.

Evans Juris spoke in opposition to the article.

Town Administrator, Dave Caron explained the legal defects as pointed out by town counsel.

Mr. Hoffman spoke again of what he believes to be some violations.

There being no further discussion. The Moderator called for the vote. It was in the negative and the Moderator declared the article defeated.

Moderator Millham then read the result of Article 4 as presented to him by Assistant Moderator, Wayne Snow. There were 195 ballots cast and the article requires a 2/3 vote. The vote was Yes 186 and No 9. A vote of 130 was necessary for passage so the Moderator declared article 4 carried.

At this point the Moderator again explained the procedure for balloting on articles 6, 7 and 11 and recapped the articles. The balloting began on these articles. The voters were given three separate ballots in different colors and marked with the number of the article being voted upon. All voters were run through the checklist before receiving a ballot. When the vote was completed the Moderator thanked the volunteers who worked checking off voters and handing out ballots, they were Ann Lacroix and Shirley Snow, Bob Walters and Jeff Bonan, Barbara Carey and Allen Whitney and William Dowling and Kathy Rietz. After the balloting was complete the Moderator asked Wayne

Snow to tally the votes.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,786,326 for the following General Government expenses. . .

The Moderator read article 12. Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten moved article 12 and it was seconded. Dennis Doten explained the increase and the employee cost of living and merit increases.

Wayne Domin asked about \$78,000 for appraisal. Dave Caron explained it is for the appraisal tech and for a firm to do appraisal of new construction. He explained that the State of NH has a new form which requires this figure be broken out.

Sue Leach spoke about her concerns for the cemeteries. Emily Hanscom stated that \$800 of the appropriation was for a bookkeeper for the Trust Funds and that they would be going out to bid for a new vendor and were unhappy with their vendor last year.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for the vote and again read the article. The vote was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,410,685 for the following Public Safety expenses . . .

The Moderator read article 13. Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten moved article 13 and it was seconded. The Moderator asked if there was any discussion. There being none, he called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,476,907 for the following Public Works expenses . . .

The moderator read article 14. Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten moved article 14 and it was seconded. Mr. Doten explained what was requested in article 14. The Moderator asked for discussion. There being no discussion, the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 86,582 for the following Health & Welfare expenses . . .

Moderator Peter Millham excused himself from Moderating this article since his wife is involved in one of the grantees. Assistant Moderator, Wayne Snow took over. Wayne Snow read article 15. Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten moved article 15 and it was seconded. Dennis Doten explained the various requests for funds.

Greg Goddard asked if the outside agencies request these funds or is this what the Budget Committee is offering. Dennis Doten explained that each request is received by the Budget Committee and looked at thoroughly. There being no further discussion, Mr. Snow called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and he announced the article carried.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$271,299 for the following Culture and Recreation. . .

Peter Millham once again took over as Moderator. He read article 16. Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten moved article 16

and it was seconded. There being no discussion, the Moderator read the article again and called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$573,662 for the following Debt Service, Capital Reserve and other miscellaneous expenses. . .

Moderator, Peter Millham read article 17. Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten moved that the meeting raise and appropriate \$573,662 and it was seconded.

William Dowling who was following along with the summarized print out requested what some of the initials in the print out meant. Dave Caron explained.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$309,468 for the following Capital Purchases . .

Peter Millham read article 18. Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten explained the expenditures proposed. There was no discussion. The Moderator read the article again and called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

At this point the tallying of articles 6, 7 and 11 were complete and the results were handed over to the Moderator. He read the following results:

Article 6: No 161 Yes 36 Defeated

Article 7: No 176 Yes 21 Defeated

Article 11: No 186 Yes 11 Defeated

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of laying out, preparing plans and specifications and for the construction of the Lockes Hill Trailer Park right-of-way, such sum to be repaid by an annual Betterment Assessment Charge to owners of properties improved by said right-of-way, and to authorize the Selectmen to implement a Betterment Assessment Charge as shall be in the best interest of the Town.

The Moderator read article 19. Dennis Doten moved article 19 as read by the Moderator and it was seconded. Town Administrator, Dave Caron explained that the residents petitioned the Selectmen to upgrade and fix the road and that the cost be recouped from the residents.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to support the Winnepesaukee Skating Club, a non-profit organization, in its efforts to construct an ice arena in Laconia to provide recreational opportunities for Lakes Region families, with said appropriation authorized pursuant to RSA 31:4. (By Petition of Suzanne Rock and others.) (Recommended by Selectmen; not recommended by the Budget Committee).

Moderator, Peter Millham read article 20. Sue Rock moved article 20 and it was seconded. Sue Rock explained the location of the skating rink and it's purpose. She further explained that much of the funds have already been raised. The organization is looking for funds from all area town to help them open by Sept., 1997.

Budget Committee Chairman, Dennis Doten stated that the Budget Committee did not vote against this item, but that the request came too late to be part of the public hearing and could, therefore, not be recommended by the Budget Committee. Selectman, Russ Dumais stood in support of the article. Robert Jordan spoke in opposition as a conflict with Gilford's skating rink. Sue King, Parks and Recreation Director, spoke in favor of the rink and explained that Gilford's rink is not enclosed and vulnerable to the changing temperatures.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$25,000 from the Rowe House Special Revenue Fund as created at the 1992 annual meeting for the purpose of reimbursing the General fund for a portion of the \$49,000 raised at the 1996 Annual Meeting for improvements to the Rowe House.

The Moderator read article 21. Selectman Dumais moved article 21 and it was seconded. Selectman Dumais explained that this is a transfer of funds to the Rowe House. The Rowe House committee then raises the funds and pays the town back. There was no further discussion. The Moderator read the article again and called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept the dedication of any street shown on a subdivision plat approved by the Planning Board, site plan or street plat made and adopted by the Planning Board, provided that such street has been constructed to applicable Town specifications as determined by the Board of Selectmen or its agent. Such authorization shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of town meeting.

Moderator, Peter Millham read article 22. Selectman Russ Dumais moved article 22 and it was seconded. Mr. Dumais explained that this article is designed to allow Selectmen to accept roads as necessary. There was no discussion. The Moderator read the article again and called for the vote. The Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to deed the following property for payment of all past due property taxes, as well as those taxes that would have been assessed . . .

Peter Millham read article 23. Selectman Dumais moved article 23 and it was seconded. Town Administrator, Dave Caron explained the Selectmen's procedure to help give back property to owners in the case of a tax deed. This would give Selectmen authority to deed the mobile homes back to the park owner. There was no discussion. Being none,

the Moderator read the article again and called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 202-A:4-d authorizing the library trustees to accept gifts of personal property, other than money, which may be offered to the library for any public purpose, and such authorization shall remain in effect . . .

Moderator, Peter Millham read article 24. Selectman Russ Dumais moved article 24 and it was seconded. There being no discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the article carried.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to grant an easement to Meadowbrook Farm, from Kimball Road over land owned by the town, . . .

The Moderator read article 25. He stated that his firm represents Meadowbrook Farm and understands the selectmen's intent to move to table, otherwise he would excuse himself from moderating this article. Selectman, Russ Dumais moved to table article 25 because of several outstanding issues which have not yet been finalized. It was seconded. The Moderator recognized Joseph Hoffman who began to make statements not relative to article 25. The Moderator stated he did not expect discussion on this article to table, but since there was to be some discussion he would asked Assistant Moderator, Wayne Snow to complete the article and excused himself. Wayne Snow explained that the motion on the floor was to table article 25. There being no further discussion, Mr. Snow called for the vote to table. It was in the affirmative and the Mr. Snow declared the article tabled.

There being no further business to come before the meeting there was a motion to adjourn and it was seconded. The Moderator called for the vote to adjourn and it was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra E. Eastman, CMC/AAE
Town Clerk-Tax Collector

**1997
Financial
Reports**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Of the Town of Gilford, NH in Belknap County
for the Fiscal Year Ended in December 31, 1997

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the information in this report was taken from official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Philip D. LaBonte, Chair
Phillippe A. Arel
Rudolph G. Lehr
 Board of Selectmen
Gregory Dickinson
 Town Treasurer

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
TOWN OF GILFORD
Year Ending December 31, 1997**

DEBITS	Levy of 1997	Levy of 1996	Prior years
Uncollected Taxes			
Property Taxes		\$1,149,258.24	
Yield Tax		7,112.25	
Sewer Use		141,886.33	4,346.01
Gunstock Acres Water		23,214.71	295.00
Capital Cost Recovery		21,478.02	146.49
Gilford Village Water		1,989.96	
TAXES COMMITTED:			
Property Tax	\$13,710,501.59		
Capital Cost Recovery	130,802.19		
Land Use Change Tax	5,680.00		
Yield Tax	14,610.77		
Gunstock Acres Water	131,391.01		
Sewer Use	288,971.64		
OVERPAYMENTS:			
Property Tax	\$11,970.50	5.36	
Sewer Use	4.81		
Interests & Costs Collected:	14,662.36	93,818.55	
TOTAL DEBITS	<u>\$14,308,594.87</u>	<u>\$1,438,763.42</u>	<u>\$4787.50</u>

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
TOWN OF GILFORD
Summary of Tax Lien Accounts
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1997**

DR.	<u>1996</u>	<u>Prior Years</u>
Unredeemed Liens 12/31/96		\$548,093.90
Liens Executed	352,179.78	
Interest & Costs Collected	<u>3,622.62</u>	<u>85,222.97</u>
TOTAL DEBITS	\$355,802.40	\$633,316.87
CR.		
Redemptions	\$88,728.99	\$326,160.10
Interest & Costs Collected	3,622.62	85,222.97
Abatements		72,468.43
Liens Deeded		21,865.34
Unredeemed Liens as of 12/31/97	<u>263,450.79</u>	<u>127,600.03</u>
TOTAL CREDITS	\$355,802.40	\$633,316.87

Respectively submitted,
Debra E. Eastman
Town Clerk-Tax Collector

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
January 1, 1997 to December 31, 1997

9050	Motor Vehicle Permits Issued	\$900,417.00
1165	Dog Licenses Issued	7,670.00
1435	Boat Permit Fees Collected	58,925.42
812	Copies of Records	835.70
23	Bad Check Penalties Collected	628.00
32	Town Pins	64.00
6	Pole Licenses Recorded	60.00
1	Checklists	15.00
31	Pistol Permits	310.00
183	Fines	6,822.22
687	Commercial Beach Admissions	1,392.00
16	Postage Reimbursement	521.12
		\$977,660.46

TOWN CLERK FEES REMITTED TO TOWN:

1717	Motor Vehicle Titles	\$3,388.00
380	Financing & Termination Statements Processed	5,986.00
53	Marriage Licenses Issued	2,385.00
114	Birth, Death & Marriage Certificates Issued	856.00
8051	Municipal Agent Fees	19,976.00
36	Wetland Applications Processed	490.00
5	Filing Fees	5.00
148	Miscellaneous Fees	277.50
		\$33,364.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$1,011,024.46
REMITTED TO TREASURER		\$1,011,024.46

Respectfully submitted,
Debra E. Eastman, CMC/AAE
Town Clerk-Tax Collector

TREASURER'S REPORT
Fiscal Year End December 31, 1997

General Fund

Cash on Hand 1/1/97	\$5,020,463.56
Total Receipts	\$16,883,457.78
less Selectmen's Orders Paid	\$16,004,579.60
	<hr/>
Cash on Hand 12/31/97	\$5,899,341.74

Conservation Commission Fund

Cash on Hand 1/1/97	\$66,978.61
Receipts	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$3,614.19
	<hr/>
Cash on Hand 12/31/97	\$70,592.80

Sewer Capital Cost Fund

Cash on Hand 1/1/97	\$159,784.38
Receipts	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$8,502.57
	<hr/>
Cash on Hand 12/31/97	\$168,286.95

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1997

Year Created	Trust Names	Invested	New Trusts	Principal	Bal. Income Beg. Year	Income 1997	Expended 1997	Bal. Income End 1997	Tr. & Inc. End 19977
various				98,289.24	72,898.48	9,699.54	6,725.00	75,873.02	174,162.26
1997	Harold & Joan Adams	CFX Bank & Lac. Savings	450.00	450.00	.00	4.82	.00	4.82	454.82
1997	Jack & Marion Boyd	"	300.00	300.00	.00	1.89	.00	1.89	301.89
1997	Richard H. & Eleanor Burt	"	600.00	600.00	.00	8.86	.00	8.86	608.86
1997	Thomas F. & Mary Cullen	"	300.00	300.00	.00	3.94	.00	3.94	303.94
1997	Alan B. & Carol A. Easton	"	300.00	300.00	.00	5.56	.00	5.56	305.56
1997	George or Ann Heilshorn	"	300.00	300.00	.00	3.11	.00	3.11	303.11
1997	Eugene & Martha Hyland	"	300.00	300.00	.00	5.56	.00	5.56	305.56
1997	Roland & Theresa Kimball	"	300.00	300.00	.00	1.89	.00	1.89	301.89
1997	J. B. Leitch/D. C. Leitch	"	150.00	150.00	.00	3.27	.00	3.27	153.27
1997	Donald & Marion McCall	"	300.00	300.00	.00	6.50	.00	6.50	306.50
1997	Donald E/Jean P. McCullough	"	300.00	300.00	.00	4.46	.00	4.46	304.46
1997	P. & K. Merriam/W/m. & E. Briggs	"	150.00	150.00	.00	2.62	.00	2.62	152.62
1997	Forrest G. & Mary S. Rand	"	300.00	300.00	.00	3.94	.00	3.94	303.94
1997	Patrick P. & Frances A. Tanner	"	300.00	300.00	.00	1.20	.00	1.20	301.20
1997	Mike/Sharon/Scott Workman	"	250.00	250.00	.00	5.56	.00	5.56	255.56
	TOTAL CEMETERY TRUSTS		\$4,600.00	\$102,889.24	\$72,898.48	\$9,762.72	\$6,725.00	\$75,936.20	\$178,825.44
MISCELLANEOUS TOWN TRUSTS									
1968	Julia Ladd *1	Laconia Savings		2,215.68	1,829.03	224.28	910.00	1,143.31	3,358.99
1926	A. V. Lincoln *2	"		1,250.00	1,043.36	129.17	.00	1,172.53	2,422.53
1968	Theodate & Elliot Remick *3	"		5,185.00	177.38	297.79	220.00	255.16	5,440.16
1928	Sarah P. Smith *4	"		2,500.00	2,972.68	310.28	5,782.96	.00	.00
1986	S. & W. Smith *5	"	25.00	4,835.00	187.98	250.18	190.00	248.16	248.16
	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS TOWN TRUSTS			\$15,985.68	\$6,210.43	\$1,211.69	\$7,102.96	\$2,819.16	\$16,304.84
GRAND TOTAL CEMETERY TRUSTS									
& MISCELLANEOUS TOWN TRUSTS									
				\$118,874.92	\$79,108.91	\$10,974.41	\$13,827.96	\$78,755.36	\$195,130.28

Year Created	Trust Names	Invested	New Trusts	Principal	Bal. Income Beg. Year	Income 1997	Expended 1997	Bal. Income End 1997	Tr. & Inc. End 19977
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS									
1989	Fire Equipment	Laconia Savings Bank		92,407.77		5,319.82	.00		97,727.59
1990	Highway Equipment	"		194,619.87		11,154.36	.00		205,774.23
1991	Kimball Castle	Village Bank & Trust	14,841.00	49,851.03		1,552.18	1,136.00		50,267.21
1994	Schools Air Conditioning	"				2,567.15	.00		50,945.62
1996	Daniel B. Rogers Trust	"		15,758.39		834.89	556.46		16,036.82
1997	Tennis Courts	"	20,000.00	20,000.00		876.87	.00		20,876.87
TOTAL			\$34,841.00	\$421,015.53		\$22,305.27	\$1,692.46		\$441,628.34

*1 Worthy Poor

*2 Lincoln Park

*3 Gilford Library

*4 Gilford Water Works

This is to certify that the information contained in this report is complete and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

George Sawyer

Emily Hanscom

Milo Bacon

**SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION
APRIL 1, 1997**

Land

Current Use	\$ 1,162,375	
Conservation Assessments	0	
Residential	196,898,025	
Commercial/Industrial	14,591,000	
		\$ 212,651,400

Buildings

Residential	\$ 305,841,800	
Manufactured Housing	9,697,500	
Commercial/Industrial	49,603,750	
		\$ 365,143,050

Public Utilities

Gas	\$ 159,781	
Electric	3,871,119	
		\$ 4,030,900

TOTAL VALUATION BEFORE EXEMPTIONS: \$ 581,825,350

Blind Exemption	\$ 60,000
Elderly Exemption	5,528,800
Solar/Windpower Exemption	

TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF EXEMPTIONS: \$ 5,588,800

NET TOWN VALUATION: \$ 576,236,550

**TOWN APPROPRIATIONS
1997**

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Executive	\$ 270,199
Election, Registration & Vital Stats	141,251
Financial Administration	85,500
Revaluation of Property	78,340
Legal Expense	50,000
Personnel Administration	684,526
Planning & Zoning	147,974
General Government Building	181,536
Cemeteries	3,500
Insurance	143,500

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police	\$ 812,709
Ambulance	43,359
Fire	520,730
Civil Defense	300
Other Public Safety	33,587

HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

Highways and Streets	\$ 591,034
Street Lighting	15,500
Administration	78,417
Vehicle Maintenance	123,633

SANITATION

Solid Waste Disposal	\$ 296,868
Sewer Collection and Disposal	354,401

WATER DISTRIBUTION AND TREATMENT

Laconia Water Works	17,054
---------------------	--------

HEALTH

Health Agencies & Hospitals	\$ 31,082
-----------------------------	-----------

WELFARE

Direct Assistance	\$ 55,500
-------------------	-----------

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation	\$ 123,573
Library	139,316
Patriotic Purposes	6,150
Other Culture & Recreation	5,500

CONSERVATION

Conservation Commission	\$ 1,710
-------------------------	----------

DEBT SERVICE

Principal - Long Term Bonds & Notes	\$ 280,045
Interest - Long Term Bonds & Notes	178,616
Interest on Tax Anticipation Notes	50,000

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment	\$ 166,970
Land & Improvements	30,000
Improvements other than Buildings	342,498

OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT

To Capital Reserve Funds	\$ 65,000
To Laconia Airport Authority	1

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS

\$ 6,149,929

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1997

GENERAL FUND	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Transfers & Receipts</u>	<u>Total Available</u>	<u>Expended or Encumbered</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Town Officer's Salaries	58,597		58,597	58,697	(100)
Insurances	626,673	11,459	638,132	606,100	32,031
Retirement & Social Security	213,871	3,356	217,227	207,157	10,070
Debt Service	508,661		508,661	458,647	50,014
Capital Reserve -					
Highway Equipment	10,000		10,000	10,000	0
- Fire Equipment	30,000		30,000	30,000	0
- Recreation Facilities	25,000		25,000	25,000	0
Computer Costs	77,500		77,500	41,986	35,514
Welfare	55,500	1,965	57,465	51,406	6,059
Care of Cemeteries	3,500		3,500	3,400	100
Legal Expenses	50,000	4,612	54,612	61,579	(6,968)
Audit	8,000		8,000	7,900	100
Budget Committee	1,000		1,000	498	502
Civil Defense	300		300	0	300
Youth Services Bureau	32,728		32,728	32,728	0
New Hampshire Humane Society	859		859	859	0
Community Action Program	3,532		3,532	3,532	0
Lakes Region Community Health	17,775		17,775	35,550	(17,775)
Lakes Region General Hospital	3,995		3,995	4,000	(5)
New Beginnings	1,080		1,080	1,080	0
American Red Cross	1,200		1,200	1,200	0
Lakes Region Association	0		0	0	0

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1997

	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Transfers & Receipts</u>	<u>Total Available</u>	<u>Expended or Encumbered</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Lakes Region Family Services	3,500		3,500	3,500	0
Lakes Region Planning Commission	7,283		7,283	7,283	0
Laconia Airport Authority	1		1	0	1
Laconia Water Works	17,054		17,054	16,873	181
Winnepesaukee Skating Club	5,000		5,000	5,000	0
Selectmen's Office	478,102	3,090	481,192	379,456	101,736
Appraisal Office	78,340		78,340	75,971	2,369
Town Clerk - Tax Collector's Office	134,026	24	134,050	126,142	7,908
Elections & Registrations	7,225		7,225	5,610	1,615
Police Department	856,191	1,583	857,774	849,927	7,847
Fire Department	537,000	3,594	540,594	548,917	(8,323)
Ambulance Service	43,359	288	43,647	42,538	1,109
Parks & Recreation Department	115,358	731	116,089	104,715	11,373
Skating Rink	8,215	30	8,245	7,928	317
Patriotic Purposes	150		150	60	90
Old Home Day	6,000		6,000	6,000	0
Gilford Public Library	139,316	3,379	142,695	137,729	4,965
Department of Planning & Land Use	140,691	3,764	144,455	142,993	1,461
Conservation Commission	1,710		1,710	1,247	463
Historic Distric Commission	550		550	27	523
Rowe House	0		0	0	0
Public Works Administration	78,417	40	78,457	79,698	(1,241)
Highway Department	790,732	27,588	818,320	786,607	31,714
Town Building Maintenance	177,236	1,624	178,860	191,611	(12,751)
Vehicle Maintenance & Operations	123,633	34	123,667	124,511	(844)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1997

	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Transfers & Receipts</u>	<u>Total Available</u>	<u>Expended or Encumbered</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Solid Waste Disposal	296,868	1,335	298,203	304,233	(6,030)
Island Support Services	4,300		4,300	993	3,307
Street Lighting	15,500		15,500	17,886	(2,386)
DPW Reclamation Project	0	67	67	6,150	(6,083)
Carry Over Appropriations	11,643	0	6,643	5,000	0
Sub-Total General Fund:	5,807,171	68,563	5,875,734	5,621,568	254,166
Net Balance:					
SEWER FUND	354,401		354,401	347,933	6,468
GILFORD VILLAGE WATER	0		0	0	0
Total All Funds	6,161,572	68,563	6,230,135	5,969,501	260,634
Net Balance All Funds					
Other Non-Revenue Disbursements:					
Refunds - Taxes and Fees	16,466				
Gilford School District	8,427,994				
Belknap County Taxes	1,204,700				
Taxes Bought by Town	352,180				
Gunstock Village Water Dist.	52,627				
Other	5,326				
Total:	10,059,293				

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CARRYOVER APPROPRIATIONS
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1997

	Carryover Appropriation	Receipts	Total Available	Expended	Balance
Computers	4,000		4,000	4,000	0
Planning & Land Use	5,000		5,000	0	5,000
Recreation	490		490	490	0
Fire Station Renovation	2,153		2,153	2,153	0
TOTALS:	11,643	0	11,643	6,643	5,000

Encumbrances to be carried forward into Fiscal Year 1997

Island Services	2,300
Computers	35,500
Telephone System	48,000
TOTAL:	85,800

**ESTIMATED REVENUES
1997**

TAXES

Land Use Change Tax	\$ 2,500
Yield Tax	2,500
Payment in lieu of taxes	10,400
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Tax	165,000

LICENSE, PERMITS & FEES

Business Licenses and Permits	\$ 12,500
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	700,000
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	27,500

FROM STATE

Shared Revenues	\$ 38,841
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	63,527
Highway Block Grant	149,348
Water Pollution Grants	31,954
State & Federal Forest Land	1,521

CHARGES FOR SERVICES

Income from Departments	\$ 218,745
Other - Capital Cost Recovery	140,000

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES

Sale of Municipal Property	\$ 15,000
Interest on Investments	50,000
Other Miscellaneous Revenues	3,000

INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN

Sewer Department	\$ 355,652
------------------	------------

OTHER FINANCING SOURCES

Fund Balance	\$ 504,000
Proceeds from L-T Bonds	200,000

TOTAL REVENUES AND CREDITS **\$ 2,691,988**

**TAX RATE COMPUTATION
1997**

Town Portion

Appropriations	\$ 6,149,929	
Less: Revenues	(2,691,988)	
Add: Overlay	644,331	
Veterans	72,350	
Less: Shared Revenues to Town	<u>(39,308)</u>	
Approved Town Tax Effort	\$ 4,135,314	
Municipal Tax Rate		\$ 7.18

School Portion

Due to Gilford School District	\$ 8,427,994	
Less: Shared Revenues	<u>(72,654)</u>	
Approved School Tax Effort	\$ 8,355,340	
School Tax Rate		\$ 14.50

County Portion

Due to Belknap County	\$ 1,204,700	
Less: Shared Revenues	<u>(9,736)</u>	
Approved County Tax Effort	\$ 1,194,964	
County Tax Rate		\$ 2.07
COMBINED TAX RATE		\$ 23.75

SUMMARY OF REVENUES
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1997

GENERAL FUND

Local Taxes:

Property Tax	
-Taxes	\$13,665,895
Interest & Cost	185,457
Land Use Change Tax	5,680
Yield Tax	14,611
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	8,154
TOTAL:	<u>\$13,879,796</u>

Intergovernmental Revenues:

State Revenue Sharing	\$224,135
Highway Block Grant	149,348
Bridge Aid	0
Water Pollution	31,954
Forest Land Reimbursement	1,626
TOTAL:	<u>\$407,063</u>

Miscellaneous Revenues:

Sale of Town Property	\$18,960
Cable TV Franchise	31,558
Capital Reserve Funds	0
Outside Agencies	21,796
Interest on Deposits	66,022
Capital Cost Recovery	130,802
Other	857
TOTAL:	<u>\$269,996</u>

Revenue from Town Clerk:

Motor Vehicle Registration	\$895,274
Motor Vehicle Titles	3,384
Boat Registration	58,925
Agent Fees	19,844
Financing & Termination	5,952
Dog Licenses	5,176
Marriage Licenses	2,385
Marriage, Birth & Death Certificates	856
Copies of Records	829
Miscellaneous Fees	4,555
TOTAL:	<u>\$997,179</u>

Income from Departments:

Selectmen's Office	
Administrative Fees	\$2,136
Photocopies & Postage	1,392
Permit Fees	25
Other	231

Police Department	
Police Reports	3,133
Police Services	27,171
Fines	6,837
Licenses & Permits	590
Other	1,550
Fire Department	
Fire Services	2,223
Kerosene Heater Permits	0
Fire Reports	10
Ambulance Fees	75,729
Other	25
Parks & Recreation Department	
Beach Concession Stand	500
Beach Admission	2,891
Program Fees	11,303
Skating Rink	1,273
Other	
Department of Planning & Land Use	
ZBA Appeal Fees	1,180
Planning Board Fees	4,386
Zoning & Code Books	633
Copies & Tax Maps	538
Building Permits	14,733
Other Permits	4,956
Other	2
Department of Public Works	
Transfer Station Fees	79,430
Permits	2,170
Recycling	4,210
Salt	380
Miscellaneous	293
TOTAL:	\$249,931
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$15,396,903
SEWER FUND	
User Rental Fees	\$291,514
Sewer Permits	375
Water Meters	3,895
Interest	3,759
Other	2,432
TOTAL SEWER FUND	\$301,974

**SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY
1997**

MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

Gilford Library	
Land & Building (226-055)	\$ 271,000
Municipal Office Complex	
Land & Buildings (226-054)	2,425,300
Glendale Parking Lot	
Land & Building (242-197)	95,400
Kimball Road	
Land & Building (215-025)	259,100
Glendale Town Docks	
Land & Buildings (242-183)	
Comfort Station	167,200
Durrell Mountain Road	
Land (234-001)	463,300
Durrell Mountain Road	
Land (232-002)	329,900
School District	
Schools, Land & Buildings (227-132)	5,167,500
Land, Alvah Wilson & Belknap Mountain Road (227-013)	117,000

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Lincoln Park	
Land (242-212)	70,500
Stonewall Park	
Land (203-269)	23,200
Gilford Beach	
Land & Building (223-417)	2,188,400

GREEN SPACE

Varney Point Road	
Land (223-500)	7,200
Schoolhouse Hill Road	
Land (226-030.100)	100
Saltmarsh Pond Road	
Land (210-033)	12,400

End of Orchard Drive Land (240-007)	1,100
Green Area Elderberry Drive Land (203-152)	200
Green Area Sherwood Forest Drive Land (229-031)	2,000
Green Area 2679 Lakeshore Road Land (267-259)	500
David Lewis Road Land (212-008)	26,300

CONSERVATION LAND

Lake Shore Road Land (252-050)	42,200
Robert Tilton Land Land (258-002)	184,800
Saltmarsh Pond Road Land (228-010)	100
Goodwin Road Land (227-116)	24,300
Clough Road Land (272-005)	20,800
186 Intervale Road Land (224-033)	2,200
31 Harris Shore Road Land (223-413.002)	55,800
Potter Hill Road Land (226-048)	17,500
Cherry Valley Road Land (226-048-001)	600

OTHER TOWN-OWNED LANDS

Alvah Wilson Road Land (227-125)	51,200
Alvah Wilson Road Land (227-126)	73,600
Gilford Avenue Land (204-003)	170,640
Kimball Castle Land & Building (242-371)	763,900

Kimball Castle	
Land (242-369)	700

TAX-ACQUIRED PROPERTIES

Gunstock Acres Lots

Land

68 Sagamore Road (252-159)	9,700
----------------------------	-------

78 Sagamore Road (252-161)	9,700
----------------------------	-------

84 Greenleaf Trail (253-055)	14,900
------------------------------	--------

Mountain View Housing Cooperative

Unit #20	10,400
----------	--------

Pine Grove Mobile Home Park

Mobile Home (224-046.018)	11,400
---------------------------	--------

22 Sleeper Hill Road

Land & Building (203-142)	90,900
---------------------------	--------

72 Old Lakeshore Road

Land & Building (213-038)	95,000
---------------------------	--------

216 Misty Harbor

Condominium (223-590-216)	40,200
---------------------------	--------

Two Pine Mobile Home Park

Mobile Home (242-169.018)	4,500
---------------------------	-------

TOTAL VALUE	\$ 13,322,640
--------------------	----------------------

STATEMENT OF BONDED DEBT
December 31, 1997

Annual Maturities of Outstanding Bonds and Long Term Notes

	Sewer Construction Fund 1983 — 2003 Original Amount \$3,550,000.00	New Municipal Building #1 1987 — 2007 Original Amount \$1,523,591.00	New Municipal Building #2 1988 — 1998 Original Amount \$269,000.00
1998	175,000.00	75,000.00	25,000.00
1999	175,000.00	75,000.00	
2000	175,000.00	75,000.00	
2001	175,000.00	75,000.00	
2002	175,000.00	75,000.00	
2003	175,000.00	75,000.00	
2004		75,000.00	
2005		75,000.00	
2006		75,000.00	
2007		75,000.00	
	\$1,050,000.00	750,000.00	\$ 25,000.00

NOTE: All debt issued through New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

To the Members of the Board of
Selectmen and Town Administrator
Town of Gilford
Gilford, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Gilford as of and for the year ended December 31, 1996. These general-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general-purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general-purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general-purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general-purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general-purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Town of Gilford has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Gilford, as of December 31, 1996, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Gilford. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general-purpose financial statements and, in our

opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

April 10, 1997

Plodzik & Sanderson
Professional Association

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S COMMUNICATION OF REPORTABLE CONDITIONS AND OTHER MATTERS

To the Members of the Board of
Selectmen and Town Administrator
Town of Gilford
Gilford, New Hampshire

In planning and performing our audit of the Town of Gilford for the year ended December 31, 1996, we considered the Town's internal control structure in order to determine the scope of our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements. Our review of these systems was not intended to provide assurance on the internal control structure and should not be relied on for that purpose.

Under the standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Town's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities, in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited, may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might constitute reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We are pleased to report that, during the course of our review of internal controls, no material weaknesses in the Town's accounting systems and records were identified. Minor weaknesses or other considerations coming to our attention were generally procedural in nature and dealt with administrative or recordkeeping practices. In these instances, we made specific recommendations or provided instruction to those individuals involved during the course of our audit fieldwork. An area discussed was closing the Citizens Bank account and transferring the \$54,407 balance to CFX Bank.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and others within the administration. This restriction is not intended to limit distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

April 10, 1997
Plodzik & Sanderson
Professional Association

**MARRIAGES REPORTED IN THE TOWN OF GILFORD
For the Year Ending December 31, 1997**

Date	Bride and Groom	Residence of each at time of Marriage
January 31, 1997	Troy Edward Neff Bonnie Jean Powell	Concord Gilford
February 14, 1997	David R. Hyslip Lindsey M. Carroll	Reading, MA Gilford
February 16, 1997	Gregg Anthony Neylon Brandy Sue Hollins	Gilford Gilford
March 23, 1997	Robert Lawrence Mullen Deborah Lee Emans	Gilford Gilford
April 12, 1997	Richard A. Sonia Corinne M. Brunette	Gilford Lakeport
April 26, 1997	William Henry Corbin Harriet Mindy Merrill	Gilford Gilford
April 26, 1997	Paul Roger Lamy Nancy Ann Oxier	Gilford Gilford
May 3, 1997	Craig Jason Bozek Kimberly Ann Smith	Gilford Gilford
May 9, 1997	Scott D. Sanborn Heidi L. Williams	Gilford Gilford
May 10, 1997	Michael Robert Aldrich Catherine Jane Baker	Gilford Lowell, MA

Date	Bride and Groom	Residence of each at time of Marriage
May 10, 1997	Edward Guido Perrotti Jr. Sandra Lee Sibole	Johnston, RI Johnston, RI
May 17, 1997	Aaron William Tiffany Michelle Marie Avery	Gilford Gilford
May 17, 1997	Steven Andrew Monfet Kimberly Kathleen Glas	Gilford Gilford
May 23, 1997	Richard L. Lemoine April Sue Boudreau	Gilford Lynn, MA
May 24, 1997	Gary Michael Janice Susan Dawn Trecartin	Lynn, MA Lynn, MA
May 24, 1997	Leon Charles Laroche Jr. Nadine Adrienne Ingmire	Gilford Gilford
May 24, 1997	Eric Gerard Stuart Kori Vance Beardsley	Sterling, MA Sterling, MA
May 24, 1997	Christopher Glenn Wong Jodi Marie McDonald	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles, CA
May 31, 1997	Kevin Michael Kokx Billie Jo Lake	Gilford Kentwood, MI
June 10, 1997	James Martin Annis Shirley Ruth Snow	Gilford Gilford
June 14, 1997	Mykel Edward Simond Crystal Lynn Day	Gilford Gilford
June 15, 1997	Michael Patrick Robillard Joann Renee Perry	Gilford Gilford

Residence of each at time of Marriage

Bride and Groom

Date

June 28, 1997	Robert Tim Howe	Gilford
June 28, 1997	Kerri Ann Rand	Gilford
June 28, 1997	Daniel Thomas Fike	Charlotte, NC
June 28, 1997	Lori Graham Foothorap	Charlotte, NC
July 5, 1997	Andrew Hunter McBride	Gilford
July 5, 1997	Paula Beatrice Bertrand	Gilford
July 5, 1997	Nathan Lloyd Hazeltine	Gilford
July 12, 1997	Lisa Anne Moynihan	Gilford
July 12, 1997	Alfred Raymond Bagley	Gilford
July 19, 1997	Florrie Devine Burke	Alton
July 19, 1997	Scott Frederick Dibona	Gilford
July 26, 1997	Carolyn Frances Drew	Gilford
July 26, 1997	Tracy W. Marden	Gilford
July 27, 1997	Demetra J. R. Chapman	Gilford
July 27, 1997	Trent Theodore Jones	Gilford
August 8, 1997	Christyne Ann McAvenia	Gilford
August 8, 1997	John H. Tidd	Gilford
August 9, 1997	Luisa Maria Martinez Perez	Madrid, Spain
August 9, 1997	Salvatore Anthony Digangi	Gilford
August 16, 1997	Carolyn Anne Beckedorff	Gilford
August 16, 1997	William Leslie Totten, Jr.	Orlando, FL
August 22, 1997	Jodi Llyn Stone	Orlando, FL
August 22, 1997	Jason Robert Mulcahy	Gilford
August 22, 1997	Michelle Lynn Paris	Gilford

Date	Bride and Groom	Residence of each at time of Marriage
August 27, 1997	Dana Lee Moore Kerry Erin Albison	Gilford Gilford
August 29, 1997	Edward Kenneth Taylor	West Roxbury, MA
August 30, 1997	Susan Jean Sullivan Michael John Millette Nancy Ann Bell	West Roxbury, MA Gilford Gilford
August 31, 1997	Douglas Edward Thoroughgood Angeliqne Ann Mosbrucker	Gilford Gilford
September 5, 1997	Kenneth Earl Higgs Beverly Labrack	Gilford Gilford
September 6, 1997	Bryan Vincent Doughty Heather Elizabeth Beyrent	Columbus, OH Columbus, OH
September 13, 1997	Travis Wade Anderson Joanna Beth Harrison	Gilford Gilford
September 13, 1997	Peter Allen Filgate Meghan Brooke Donovan	Gilford Gilford
September 20, 1997	Robert James Harding Bridget Kathleen McNutt	Gilford Gilford
September 20, 1997	Thomas Meadows Flinders Jill Ellen April	Spanish Fork, UT Gilford
September 20, 1997	Kevin Carl Dolloff Kimber Lee Brown	Gilford Gilford
September 27, 1997	Richard Leon Fielders, II Joya Leanne Champion	Gilford Gilford

Date	Bride and Groom	Residence of each at time of Marriage
October 15, 1997	Richard E. Merrill	Sanbornton
	Mary Dorleen Murray	Gilford
November 1, 1997	David Maynard Perkins, III	Gilford
	Michelle Lynn Lefebvre	Gilford
November 8, 1997	Gregory Dennis Gallien	Gilford
	Lorraine Antal Matthews	Gilford
November 15, 1997	Donald Alfred Smart	Gilford
	Heidi Lynn Tibbals	Gilford
December 13, 1997	Aaron Clark Brothers	Gilford
	Jessica Lynn Waldron	Gilford
December 24, 1997	Daniel Robert Holland	Gilford
	Diane Pearl Cardinal	Gilford

I hereby certify that the above return is correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Debra E. Eastman, CMC/AEE
Town Clerk

**DEATHS RECORDED IN THE TOWN OF GILFORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1997**

Date	Place of Death	Name of Deceased	Father's Name Mother's Maiden Name
January 19, 1997	Gilford	Eleanor O. Page	Robert S. Ormsby Nellie Stiles
March 2, 1997	Gilford	Annamae Theresa Dour	John V. Carney Mary Hayes
March 12, 1997	Gilford	Robert Patrick McCauley	James McCauley Margaret Finnerty
March 16, 1997	Gilford	Scott Edward Gillum	Albert Gillum III Ellen M. Peters
April 14, 1997	Gilford	Bruce Alden Bunyan	Alden T. Bunyan Margaret L. Brewer
June 7, 1997	Gilford	Donald Earle McCullough	John C. McCullough Gladys L. Danforth
June 9, 1997	Gilford	Robert Dundas Kirk	Arthur Kirk Hazel Dundas
August 2, 1997	Gilford	Leo Saltzberg	Israel Saltzberg Dora Greenspan
August 3, 1997	Gilford	Lewis Marion Briant	Joseph Briant Victoria Briant
September 1, 1997	Gilford	Erwin Lewis Smith	Jackson Smith Rheuammah Peach
September 7, 1997	Gilford	Sean Lucien Reed	Donald A. Reed Diane E. Smith
September 29, 1997	Gilford	Patrick Philip Tanner	Hervey Tanner Sr. Yvonne Lessard
October 26, 1997	Gilford	Mary W. Coyne	Unknown Eva Fletcher
November 1, 1997	Gilford	Keith Joseph Sorgente	Ronald N. Sorgente Beverly A. Towne
November 15, 1997	Gilford	Jeanette Derby Jones	Herbert Myers Katherine Derby

I hereby certify that the above return is correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Debra E. Eastman, CMC/AEE
Town Clerk

Annual Report
of the
School District
of the town of
GILFORD
New Hampshire

for the year ending

June 30, 1997

**OFFICERS OF THE
GILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Moderator

John S. Kitchen

Clerk

Kathy Francke

Treasurer

Gregory M. Dickinson

Auditors

Carri, Plodzik & Sanderson

SCHOOL BOARD

Carryl Krohne, Chairperson

Term Expires 2000

Susan Allen

Term Expires 1999

Kent Baron

Term Expires 2000

Evans Juris

Term Expires 1998

Gail Tapply

Term Expires 1998

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Stephen G. Russell

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Carolann Wais

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Edward Emond

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Lori DeTrude

Regular meetings of the School Board
First and Third Monday of Each Month
7:15 p.m. - Gilford Elementary School

GILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING March 19, 1997

The 1997 Gilford School District Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 19, 1997. School District Moderator John Kitchen called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Gilford Board member Gail Tapply led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance. Moderator Kitchen welcomed people to the annual district meeting.

The student microphone runners were recognized. They were Daisy Pierce, Joe Cipollo, and Jessica Ellis.

Moderator Kitchen shared announcements on upcoming school activities with those present. These included a scheduled performance of the play, "St. Joan," the GMHS Performing Arts hosting of the NH State Drama Festival, the GMHS hosting of the NH Young Writers Conference, and plans for the Mystery Dinner Theater. Recognition and thanks were offered to the officer on duty, Lieutenant John Markland.

Moderator Kitchen recognized Carryl Krohne, Chairperson of the Gilford School Board. Chairperson Krohne thanked people for their interest in attending and participating in the meeting. She noted that copies of the proposed budget, the district merit review study, and the space needs report were available in the lobby.

Chairperson Krohne recognized retiring school board member Cathy Pierce. Cathy was recognized for her nine years of service to the district as a member of the Gilford School Board. A gift of a "little red schoolhouse" drawn by a Gilford Middle High School student was presented to Cathy with "thanks."

Moderator Kitchen began the discussion of the School District Meeting Warrant with a review of the procedures that he utilizes to encourage voter participation. This included the requirement that only registered voters participate in the voting, the use of the checklist for entry into the assembly and ballot votes, and a request to wait for students to arrive with the microphone prior to address the meeting.

ARTICLE I - Moderator Kitchen reviewed Article I: "To determine and appoint the salaries of the school board and truant officer and to fix the compensation of any other officers or agents of the district as follows: District Treasurer, \$1,600; School Board Chairperson, \$1,000; School Board Representatives, \$750; School District Moderator, \$20; School District Clerk, \$20." He noted that the Budget Committee and the Gilford School Board recommended approval of the article. Moderator Kitchen called for questions and/or discussion. Richard Campbell asked for clarification of the salary figures as presented in the town report and on the warrant as moved. Clarification was provided. No further discussion followed. Moderator Kitchen called the question. It was approved on a voice vote.

ARTICLE II - Article II was read by Moderator Kitchen: "To hear the

reports of the agents, auditors, and committees, and pass any vote relating thereto.” Sue Allen moved that the reports of the agents, auditors, and committees be accepted as printed in the 1996 Town Report. Cathy Pierce seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion on the motion, Moderator Kitchen called for a vote. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

ARTICLE III - Moderator Kitchen read Article III: “To choose committees in relation to any subject embraced in the warrant.” Gail Tapply moved that there were no committee reports to provide or assignments to discuss at the present time, and that the meeting pass over this article. Evans Juris seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

ARTICLE IV - Budget committee Chairperson Dennis Doten moved: “That the Gilford School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,356,7333 for the support of schools, for salaries of school district officers and agents, and for payment of the statutory obligations of the district.” Mr. Doten noted that the Gilford School Board and Budget Committee recommended approval of this article. Cathy Pierce seconded the motion. Mr. Doten spoke to the article. He noted that this was a large, \$10,000,000 budget and that its development was the result of a lot of work by the Budget Committee, School Board, and SAU. He cited the frustrations and difficulties that had occurred throughout the process as they reviewed the varied versions of the budget.

He expressed his personal “thanks” to Cathy Pierce for her work and assistance with the task. Questions were deferred to the School Board. No comments followed. Moderator Kitchen and further information followed. Questions were raised by Howard Altman for clarification on how the original budget figures proposed by the School Board differed from the work that resulted from Budget Committee discussion and actions. He suggested that this information be included in future years’ budgets. Richard Campbell questioned the difference in figures in the budget regarding consideration for special warrant articles. Information was provided. Jeff Manter questioned why the telecommunications costs were not included in the general budget. Carryl Krohne responded. Robert Lemaire sought clarification on the difference in the “bottom line” in Article V. Explanations were provided Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Kitchen called the motion to a vote. It was approved on a voice vote.

ARTICLE V - Moderator Kitchen read the article: “To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for the purpose of funding technology purchases as presented in the district technology plan.” The article was moved by Chairperson Carryl Krohne and seconded by Sue Allen. The article was recommended for approval by the school board and the budget committee. Chairperson Krohne spoke to the motion notice that copies of the district’s technology plan were available for your information in the lobby. She provided a brief review of the plan. Hearing no questions, Moderator Kitchen called the

motion. It was approved on a voice vote.

ARTICLE VI - Moderator Kitchen read the article. Evans Juris moved: "That the Gilford School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$52,000 for the purpose of funding telecommunication purchases for Gilford Elementary School and Gilford Middle High School."

Sue Allen seconded the motion. The article was recommended for approval by the School Board and not recommended by the Budget Committee. Mr. Juris outlined the purpose of funding these purchases. Questions and discussion followed. Bob Jordan shared questions concerning the duration of the problem and about the need to replace the intercom system. He sought clarification on the discussions held to date related to the safety and security issues raised. Mr. Juris responded providing the information requested. Edward Bickford asked how long the intercom system had been working improperly. Dr. Stephen Russell outlined the four to five year history of the problem and the background of the efforts made to correct it. Doug Lambert questioned why the Budget Committee had not recommended approval of this warrant article. Dennis Doten explained the Budget Committee's work in considering priorities and various requests in other areas as well as the possibility of addressing the problem at a later date in the next year's budget. Mark Wright shared his opinion that "given that the system had been dysfunctional this long, it represented a safety and liability issue for the district and its children." John Boucher expressed the opinion that "if the district had expended funds for the correction of the problem earlier, it would not exist to the extent that it presently does." Evans Juris outlined the previous repairs made to the system and its present nonrepairable status. Jeff Manter sought clarification on the specific purposes of the expenditure. He noted the continuing security issues and the need that he assured existed to monitor the school entrances for the safety of the students. Evans Juris confirmed that his assumptions were correct and that further work was needed. Howard Altman sought to clarify whether or not the system was working and if the repairs were completed. School Superintendent Richard Ayers provided information on the history of repairs for the life of the school and the various systems utilized. Principal Marianne True added further information concerning the limits of the system as it is in use today. Howard Altman sought further clarification on the limits of reporting student difficulties from the portables and the gymnasium area of the building. This information was provided by Marianne True. Jeff Manter inquired as to the status of the intercom system running out to the portables during the past five years. Dr. Ayers reported that one-way communication had existed out to the portables during this time. Carol Groneky suggested the possibility of utilizing the balance of network funds for the study of improvements to the building's security. Evans Juris recommended that this not be pursued, as the Gilford Police Department was presently pursuing a

grant to obtain these funds. Mr. Juris spoke of the changes taking place in society and the need for attention to children and adults' safety and security. Robert Lemaire asked whether or not the portables would be necessary and whether the prices would be adjusted if the Gilford School District separated from the Gilmanton School District.

Doug Lambert asked for clarification on the other areas where communication was not working in the building. Marianne True responded with this information. Gerna Magnusson said that as a member of the Budget Committee, she "did not get a presentation on the safety information that went into this warrant." Suzanne Kraus expressed her concerns over "putting a price tag on the safety of our children." She spoke in support of the article. Hearing no more discussion, Moderator Kitchen re-read the article and called it to a vote. It was approved on a voice vote.

ARTICLE VII - Chairperson Krohne made the motion: "That the Gilford School District vote to create a Cooperative School District Planning Committee with the Gilmanton School District." She read on, "The committee shall include three qualified voters of the Town of Gilford of whom at least one shall be a member of the Gilford School Board. The membership shall be appointed by the Moderator, said committee to operate in accordance with the provisions of RSA 195:18 I (a)." Evans Juris seconded the motion. Chairperson Krohne noted that she had amended the motion to change "appointment by the School Board" to "appointment by the Moderator" to meet the legal requirements of RSA 195:18. She explained that the Gilford School Board had been approached by the Gilmanton School Board as to their interest in changing from an AREA Agreement to a cooperative agreement. School District Attorney Brad Kidder explained the similarities and differences between AREA and cooperative agreements. Dick Campbell spoke in opposition to the article. He offered prepared comments and outlined his opinions concerning the disadvantages of forming a cooperative agreement with the Gilmanton School District. Chairperson Krohne responded, and she noted that although the board had not taken a formal vote on the article that she had observed that the board did not presently support the article. She added that the Gilford Board was bringing forward in response to a request by the Gilmanton School District in order to give the voters an opportunity to share their views on this matter. Bob Jordan stated that he observed that several issues were occurring simultaneously that were related to this matter and that "the body should not go forward in a vacuum." He cited the previous work of the Gilford Space Needs Committee and the SAU Study Committee which is presently working to examine the advantages and disadvantages of Gilford withdrawing from SAU #30. Bob Jordan moved that the article be tabled.

The motion was seconded by Bill Dowling. Moderator Kitchen called the motion to a standing vote. Sixty-two people voted "yes" to table the

motion; 40 people noted “no.” The motion carried.

ARTICLE VIII - Moderator Kitchen read the article: “To transact any other business that may come before the meeting. Cathy Pierce moved that since there was no other business for the district to consider, that the meeting be adjourned.

It was unanimously seconded and approved at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Irving
School District Clerk, pro tem.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON

The Gilford School District continued to face similar challenges as in the past several years, including increasing enrollments and educational costs, continued student diversity and curriculum alignment with the New Hampshire (NH) Frameworks. Another adjustment was brought about by substantive change in School Administrative Unit (SAU) #30 personnel, including a new superintendent, assistant superintendent, and business manager. The assistance and support of many, including administrators, staff, parents, and students, and SAU #30, was invaluable in tackling change and turning potential problems into sound educational opportunities for the 1400 students served, who are the citizens of tomorrow.

The Gilford School Board (GSB), reorganized itself in March and prioritized the following goals for the 1997-98 school year:

1. To improve fiscal planning/budgeting and overall financial operations;
2. To continue facility planning and past space needs efforts;
3. To study the relationship with SAU #30; and
4. To initiate a strategic planning process involving the schools and community.

In addition, the following building goals were adopted:

Gilford Elementary School (GES)

1. To increase the use of the democratic process as part of the Higher Order of Thinking Skills (H.O.T.S.) school philosophy;
2. To continue the process of aligning our existing curriculum to the NH Curriculum Frameworks, incorporating the use of a variety of assessment techniques to drive instruction.

Gilford Middle High School (GMHS)

1. To prepare for the New England Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges (NEAS & C) reaccreditation process;
2. To continue to explore new and different methods of teaching which will better serve the diverse needs of a growing student population;
3. To continue to work toward improving the school climate, by emphasizing the importance of respect and responsibility within GMHS; and
4. To continue to align the GMHS curriculum with the NH Curriculum Frameworks.

The following are highlights from a very busy, productive year:

1. Selection of new SAU #30 personnel, including Superintendent Dr. Stephen Russell, Assistant Superintendent Carolann Wais, and Business Manager Ed Emond;
2. Continued progress in aligning curriculum, instruction and assessment with NH Curriculum Frameworks and analysis of NH Education, Improvement and Assessment Program test results;
3. Numerous meetings between Fiscal Committee and Budget Committee representatives on budget format and end of the year financial analysis;
4. Work in the area of the creation of the SAU Planning Committee to study withdrawal or reorganization;
5. Extensive revisions to and updating of the support staff manual;
6. Continued work in the area of district policy revisions and student handbooks; and
7. Discussions with the Gilmanton School Board about student issues and the AREA Agreement.

The death of two students, Sean Reed and Keith Sorgente, and long time School District Treasurer Ed Kenney was a great loss to the school community. The board was grateful to the larger school community in the way these difficult situations were handled.

Gilford School Board members continue to find it rewarding to serve a district committed to **quality education** yet ever mindful of the limited financial resources of our community. Thank you for your continued support as we encourage your continued involvement in your schools. This **shared partnership**, among the board, administrators, teachers, parents, and citizens, is the cornerstone for continued progress in an efficient, effective manner.

Carryl Krohne, Chairperson
Gilford School Board

REPORT OF THE GILFORD MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

As the 1997-1998 school year opened, we welcomed 845 students to Gilford Middle-High School. Throughout the year, I continue to marvel at the commitment of our staff, parents and community members as they strive to provide the best educational experience for our young people.

Our goals for the 1997-1998 school year demonstrate our commitment to educational excellence. As a school community, we have begun to prepare for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges re-accreditation visit scheduled for March of 1999. Going through the self-study that will prepare us for the arrival of fourteen educators from the New England area, who will evaluate our programs, gives us an opportunity to reflect on the education of Gilford Middle-High School's young people. Our thanks, in advance, to those of you from the communities of Gilmanton and Gilford who have offered to give so generously of your time as we work to complete this process.

In addition to preparing for the NEASC visit, we continue to emphasize respect and responsibility at the Middle-High School. This is evidenced by the work of the Handbook Committee, comprised of students, staff and parents who worked diligently last spring to develop a student/parent handbook that reflects a community supported code of conduct.

This year, in addition to analyzing the relationship between our curriculum and the skill areas emphasized in the New Hampshire State Curriculum Frameworks, staff members in grades six through twelve have reviewed and revised curriculum throughout content areas. This work creates continuity from grade level to grade level and will allow us opportunities to ensure that we use the best instructional practices as well.

Scholastically, our students continue to demonstrate excellence in academics, as evidenced by strong Advanced Placement scores in nine different areas:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Number Tested</u>	<u>Percentage Who Scored in the 3,4,5 Range</u>
Eng. Lit. & Comp.	6	100%
Eng. Lang. & Comp.	3	66%
U.S. History	10	70%
Biology	6	66%
Chemistry	3	33%
Euro. Hist.	3	100%
German Lang.	1	100%
Psychology	1	100%

Close to 70 percent of our students pursue their educations beyond

Gilford Middle-High School, with 50 percent attending four year colleges and 19 percent attending two year colleges. Our SAT scores increased in 1997 as well, with students scoring 525 on the mean verbal portion of the exam, up from 452 in 1996, and 494 on the mean math, up from 485 in 1996.

Applied learning continues to be an area of emphasis for our students and staff at Gilford Middle-High School in terms of curriculum development, staff training and student experiences. The implementation of Biology II and Physics Technology courses this fall enable students to take part in “real life” learning experiences as they hone their skills within each content area. Several teachers participated in internships and business visitations this past summer and throughout the school year in an effort to enhance instruction via applied classroom learning activities. In addition, staff have engaged students in business enterprises as part of their course work. Teachers continue to serve as representatives on Gilford’s Career Development and School/Business Partnership Board as well.

Currently, twenty-five students are working as student interns or community service volunteers, while thirty students are participating in career information interviews and job shadowing experiences. Our communities continue to support our efforts to provide students with meaningful learning experiences outside of the classroom, as fifty business and non-profit organizations are involved in our school-to-work partnerships.

Last August, GMHS hosted a seminar to train teachers throughout Central New Hampshire in the development of aligned curriculum. All freshmen taking Computer Literacy during the first semester of the school year have participated in an Initial Career and Post-Secondary Education Workshop, with the remaining freshmen scheduled for participation second semester. All sophomores will be attending a career and post-secondary education conference in early March.

Extra-Curricular Participation

Students at Gilford Middle-High School are involved in a myriad of activities outside of the classroom. In the last year, our students have participated in wonderful dramatic presentations, including *The Secret Garden*, *Pippin*, and *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Our literary magazine, *Obsessive Image*, lauded for its content and lay-out, was awarded first place this year by the American Press Association. It also earned a citation of excellence from the National Council of Teachers of English.

Additional accolades garnered by students included awards in art, where our students have been recognized for their talent by the Plymouth Friends of the Arts Juried Show, the Boston Globe Scholastic

Art Awards, the Youth Art Month Statewide Exhibit, and The Congressional Art Awards. Our students also placed first in the state in the Senior Division of the Boston Globe sponsored Stock Market Contest.

Athletics

Another area of extra-curricular participation that plays an important role in the lives of our students is athletics. With emphasis placed on fostering teamwork and commitment, as well as athletic skills, our teams have brought a great deal of pride to the Gilmanton and Gilford communities: Last spring our Girls Tennis Team made it to the state finals, while our Boys team made it to the state semi-finals. Our Boys Track and Field team finished in the top five in the Class Meet and our Girls Track and Field Team finished in the top four. The Boys Alpine Ski Team finished third in Division I; the Girls Alpine Ski Team finished second. Jessica Banks was honored as the recipient of the Division I Skimeister Award. This fall, the Gilford Field Hockey Team won its first State Championship, and the Girls Volleyball Team won its third consecutive Class M Championship. Our Varsity Boys Soccer team competed in the State Quarter Finals, and our Middle School Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams finished second in the state. Our Junior Varsity Soccer Team will move to the varsity level in 1998-99, having completed an impressive year with only one loss throughout the season.

Middle School

The addition of a reading specialist at the middle level has enabled us to address an area of importance to us, as we strive to develop and enhance the reading skill levels of our young people. Individual and group reading assistance, as well as the implementation of Great Books Discussion Groups for our advanced readers at the sixth, seventh and eighth grade levels, have added much to our reading program. In addition to working with faculty on instructional techniques and modeling reading strategies across the content areas, our reading specialists at both the middle and high school levels and our library media specialist have coordinated and implemented school-wide reading days, which encourage all students and staff to recognize the importance of taking time to read.

Seventh graders are involved in a passport incentive program to encourage the reading of several different genres, and "grand book" conversations have begun for students who want to read a common book and meet to discuss it.

Interdisciplinary units at all three grade levels have expanded this year. Students will present the First Annual Community Night in March,

providing students with an opportunity to spotlight projects and presentations. Coordinated by the Middle School Student Council, this event will enable parents and community members to see first hand the intellectual talent of our middle school students.

Community service projects have brought much pride to the middle school. Our seventh graders won a community service award for their annual beach clean-up efforts. Proceeds from the award will be used for beach improvements. Seventh graders again donated proceeds from the sale of their annual Holiday Cookbook to the Santa Fund, while the Middle School Student Council organized the collection of funds and the donation of toys and clothing for this worthwhile cause as well.

Eighth graders expanded their community service work this year to include all students. In doing so, they continue to make a difference in the lives of individuals throughout their work at the Salvation Army, the Homeless Shelter, area nursing homes, The Humane Society and Headstart. In addition, our middle school students continue to combine the enjoyment of middle school dances with community service. Donations of canned goods brought to these popular dances by students have resulted in hundreds of cans being given to the Salvation Army.

Our wonderful sixth grade volunteers have contributed greatly to the entire middle school program. They helped carry out our first sixth grade orientation experience in September, provided refreshments for dances and club fund-raisers, chaperoned events, helped to supervise our newly formed middle school store, started a banking program, provided goodies for Great Book conversation groups and assisted with numerous individual classroom projects. They have also worked with our high school volunteers to coordinate the distribution of the *Aerie*, so that we may continue to keep parents informed of school events on a monthly basis. I invite all interested parents and community members who would like to be part of our volunteer efforts to contact the school. We d be delighted to create a volunteer name tag just for you.

Similarly, our Parent/Teacher Association continues to extend its help and support throughout the school year. Their willingness to offer time and energy to support our student projects and programs means a great deal.

In closing, I would like to thank the communities of Gilford and Gilmanton for the privilege of working with your young people. I continue to appreciate the hard work of our students and staff as well as the support of the School Board, Superintendent and SAU staff. The commitment of our entire school community is something in which we can all take pride.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne M. True, Principal

REPORT OF THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Preparing for the start of a new school year begins well in advance of greeting our students in September. During the summer, your building administrators are kept very busy reviewing and updating school policies, ordering materials, overseeing the operation of various summer programs, and organizing professional development inservice programs for staff. Perhaps the single most important task undertaken during the summer is to establish the school goals and priorities for the upcoming year. Building administrators meet periodically with grade level team leaders to accomplish this goal. This can be a most difficult task when the complexity and diversity of instructional areas are considered in order to arrive at consensus as to which areas are of greatest importance. It is, however, an extremely important process that strongly influences the instructional programs and the general policies of our school as we begin a new school year. After much deliberation and discussion, team leaders and school administrators agreed that two primary goals to receive the focus of attention for the 1997/98 school year would be: to extend the democratic process aspect of the HOTS(Higher Order Thinking Skills) program and to continue working on aligning the school's curriculum with the New Hampshire State Curriculum Frameworks. There was also consensus that we must continue with our initiatives in the direction of further defining curriculum standards and student expectations at all grade levels.

Curriculum review and revision in the area of mathematics will continue as a priority for another year. We have made good progress in the revision of our math curriculum, but there is more to accomplish. A math study committee has met regularly over the course of the year and will be making a recommendation for the adoption of a new basal program. This program will include textbooks and other instructional materials as well as inservice programs for teacher training in the use of the new program.

The Lynx Elementary Physics Program, piloted in one classroom at grade levels 2, 4, and 5, is proving to be an outstanding program. Early assessment of student progress and achievement is very positive. Our goal is to introduce this program to all classrooms next year at the grade levels piloted this year.

We will continue our emphasis on teaching technology skills at all grade levels. Due largely to the efforts of Dave Stevens, technology teacher, and Otis Wirth, fourth grade teacher, our school website is recognized as one of the best in the state. If you have accessibility to the

internet, we encourage you to visit our website and discover all the special programs that our school has to offer and to view samples of student work in several areas of the school curriculum. We are also proud of the fact that a national internet project created by Mr. Wirth is being embraced by schools across the country and include participation by some foreign countries as well.

The HOTS program continues to gain momentum within our school. A greater number of students are gaining self confidence in their ability to solve problems, work collaboratively with their classmates and to perform before a large audience of their peers and adult members of the community at Showcase, a school-wide assembly to celebrate student success across all areas of the curriculum. Additional companies, groups of students selected for enrichment activities, have been instituted this year to allow a greater number of students to extend their learning in new ways. These companies are organized to focus on specific skills and activities that are often highlighted at Showcase. An example of this is the MC (Master of Ceremonies) Company, organized to involve students as Showcase hosts. We are very excited about this significant change to the Showcase format. The students assuming this role have done a stellar job under the direction of Blythe Gustafson, faculty advisor. Our school gained recognition throughout the New England region and beyond as a result of The GES HOTS Program being the focus of the Ed Exchange Program. This monthly program aired live on New Hampshire Public Television with Principal, Mike Tocci, and teachers, Wendy Roche and Dave Stevens as guests on the program.

In celebration of National Education Week at Gilford Elementary, an exciting jeopardy-like competition called Panda Bowl was played by community teams representing realtors, bankers, rotarians, and municipal employees. Contestants were asked questions with varying degrees of difficulty in seven different categories. Many of the questions were selected from the school curriculum. Students at all grade levels were assigned teams to sponsor, and during the competition students dressed in team colors, offered special cheers, and displayed banners to support their team. All three rounds of the Panda Bowl were very close, but in the end the Municipal Team prevailed as champions of the first annual GES Panda Bowl.

The professional staff and the support staff at Gilford Elementary School are extremely hard working, dedicated people who continually strive to accommodate the needs of students. They are all to be commended for their efforts in meeting the academic, social and emotional needs of children in a safe and orderly school environment.

Your school administration will continue to place high priority in recruiting the best possible candidates for staff vacancies as they occur. New personnel for this school year include: Kim Garvin, art teacher; Paul Warnick, music teacher; and Chris Anderson, part-time music teacher. Support staff hired are: Michelle Martinelli, Patricia Bedell and Blythe Gustafson as assistant teachers and Kathy Korber and Laura Smith as special education aides.

In closing, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the many parent volunteers who work at our school every week, The Volunteer Steering Committee that governs the volunteer program and the Gilford District P.T.A. for their outstanding support. A generous gift of money from the P.T.A. supported the purchase of new projection equipment and a screen to improve the quality of presentations at Showcase. I also appreciate the commitment and support of the Gilford School Board and the S.A.U. personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Tocci
Principal

**SCHOOL STATISTICS
GILFORD ELEMENTARY
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS**

As of December, 1997

Elementary	Grade	
	K	83
	1	73
	2	100
	3	96
	4	84
	5	101
		<hr/>
	Total Elementary	537
Middle School	6	101
	7	113
	8	92
		<hr/>
	Total Middle	306
High School	9	129
	10	163
	11	120
	12	127
		<hr/>
	Total High	539
SCHOOL DISTRICT TOTAL		<hr/> 1382 <hr/>

**REPORT OF THE GILFORD
SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1997**

Fund Balance 7/1/97 **\$8,424.76**

REVENUES

Food Sales	\$265,684.90	
Special Functions	2,997.20	
Interest		
Misc.	506.27	
State & Fed. Reimbursement	45,225.00	
Intergovernmental Transfers	5,000.00	
Misc. Receivables	627.70	
Total Revenues		\$320,041.07

EXPENSES

Food	\$129,391.18	
Labor	178,554.79	
Expendables	5,322.98	
Repairs	1,710.58	
Misc. Purchases	-0-	
Contracted Services	330.00	
Total Expenses		<u>\$315,927.60</u>

Fund Balance 6/30/97 **\$ 12,538.23**

Cash Financial Statement

Cash Balance 7/1/96	\$10,695.94	
Total Cash Received	319,992.85	
		\$330,688.79
Total Cash Expended	\$315,638.30	
		\$15,050.49
Cash Balance		
Proof to Fund Balance		
Cash	\$15,050.49	
Receivables	(+) 3,332.70	
		\$18,383.19
Payables	(-) 5,844.96	

FUND BALANCE 6/30/97 **\$12,538.23**

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Liebl, R.D. Gilford School Lunch Director

FINANCIAL REPORT
GILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1997

Revenues

Revenues From Local Sources — General Fund

1121 Taxes - Current Appropriation	\$ 8,324,593.00
1122 Deficit Appropriation	-0-
1312 Tuition - Other LEA's Within NH	1,122,522.33
1350 Driver Education Tuition	19,350.00
1500 Earnings on Investments	11,923.97
1700 Pupil Activities	1,152.00
1910 Rental	2,452.06
1990 Other Revenue	44,640.90
Summer School Tuition	19,356.97
 Total Local Revenue	 9,545,991.23

Revenue From State Sources - General Fund

3120 Foundation Aid	-0-
3210 School Building Aid	87,621.98
3222 Transportation	3,004.48
3230 Driver Education	17,025.00
3240 Handicapped Aid	97,079.96
Other	34,500.00
 Total Revenue From State Sources - General Fund	 239,231.42
 Total Revenue - General Fund	 9,785,222.65

Expenditures

General Fund Expenditures - Elementary School

1100 Regular Education Programs	1,667,222.42
1200 Special Education Programs	225,110.04
1400 Other programs	36,322.03
2120 Guidance	95,901.45
2130 Health	43,647.90
2140 Psychological	14,083.34
2150 Speech Pathology	31,678.37

2210 Improvement of Instruction	17,220.19
2220 Education Media	82,767.28
2290 Other Instructional Staff	60.86
2310 School Board	18,203.00
2320 Office of Superintendent	86,437.53
2400 School Administration	218,362.86
2540 Operation and Maintenance of Plant	288,376.38
2550 Pupil Transportation	108,108.05
2600 Other Services	2,622.48

Total Elementary General Fund Expenditures 2,936,124.18

General Fund Expenditures - Middle School

1100 Regular Education Programs	1,296,049.39
1200 Special Education Programs	233,692.63
1400 Other Instructional Programs	59,684.88
2120 Guidance	58,266.54
2130 Health	13,528.26
2140 Psychological	7,505.65
2150 Speech Pathology	7,351.83
2210 Improvement of Instruction	8,170.39
2220 Educational Media	23,733.54
2290 Other Instructional Staff	32.45
2310 School Board	9,618.64
2320 Office of Superintendent	46,100.02
2400 School Administration	147,126.55
2540 Operation and Maintenance of Plant	207,184.72
2550 Pupil Transportation	74,187.52
2600 Other Services	1,378.74

Total Middle General Fund Expenditures 2,193,611.75

General Fund Expenditures - High School

1100 Regular Education Programs	2,455,081.63
1200 Special Education Programs	279,940.34
1300 Vocational Education Programs	27,434.16
1400 Other Instructional Programs	154,523.55
2120 Guidance	102,272.59
2130 Health	23,883.90
2140 Psychological	7,975.65
2150 Speech Pathology	13,550.28
2210 Improvement of Instruction	18,262.91
2220 Educational Media	41,757.41
2290 Other Instructional Staff	56.94

2310 School Board	16,913.82
2320 Office of Superintendent	80,888.45
2400 School Administration	261,700.36
2540 Operation and Maintenance of Plant	402,309.44
2550 Pupil Transportation	160,691.46
2600 Other Services	2,343.11

Total High School General Fund Expenditures	4,049,586.00
---	--------------

General Fund Expenditures - District Wide

4000 Facilities Acquisition	97,895.00
5000 Debt Service	392,050.00
Food Service	-0-
Capital Reserve	-0-

Total District-Wide General Fund Expenditures	489,945.00
---	------------

Total General Fund Expenditures	9,669,266.93
---------------------------------	--------------

Statement of Changes in Fund Balance

Total Fund Surplus 7/1/95	62,676.24
Plus Revenues (See Above)	9,785,222.65
Subtotal	9,847,898.89
Less Expenditures (see above)	9,669,266.93
Total Fund Balance 6/30/97	178,631.96

AUDITOR'S REPORT ON FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

To the Members of the School Board
Gilford School District
Gilford, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of the Gilford School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 1997 as listed in the table of contents. These general-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the School District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general-purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosure in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general-purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. As in the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Gilford School District has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Gilford School District, as of June 30, 1997, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with general accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general-purpose financial statements of Gilford School District taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general-purpose financial statements of the Gilford School District. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general-purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

August 10, 1997

James A. Sojka, CPA

Plodzik & Sanderson Professional Association

Gunstock Acres

Water District

GAVWD PROPOSED 1998 BUDGET

	1996	1997	Budgeted	1998
	Budgeted	Actual		Actual (unaudited)
Maintenance	\$58,000.00	\$58,695.00	\$63,000.00	\$62,371.46
Supplies	\$20,000.00	\$22,633.00	\$16,000.00	\$15,529.00
Chemicals			\$8,500.00	\$8,362.40
Utilities	\$24,500.00	\$23,863.00	\$25,000.00	\$28,352.25
District officers	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Audit	\$2,400.00	\$1,743.00	\$2,400.00	\$1,820.00
Billing	\$1,800.00	\$1,494.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,584.00
Administration	\$2,500.00	\$1,301.00	\$4,500.00	\$2,868.06
Insurance	\$1,000.00	\$416.00	\$1,000.00	\$412.00
Legal	\$1,000.00	\$1,123.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Emergency	\$13,000.00	\$11,007.00	\$13,000.00	\$17,969.00
Engineering	\$1,000.00	\$358.00	\$1,000.00	\$357.50
Water quality testing	\$2,500.00	\$976.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,261.50
Capital collection (or emergency)	\$15,000.00		\$15,000.00	
Interest on tax anticipation	\$3,500.00	\$3,434.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,690.63
Principal of debt	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Interest of debt	\$13,070.00	\$13,070.00	\$12,096.00	\$12,095.00
Special warrant article				
Totals	\$175,370.00	\$154,213.00	\$188,296.00	\$170,672.82

Notes: * 2 rounds of L & C, 3 SDWA's (without SOC's)

**** MONEY TO BE ACCUMULATED TO BUILD A NEW PUMPING STATION TO REPLACE PUMP STATIONS 2, 3, & 4 WHICH ARE ALL EXTREMELY SUB STANDARD, OR IF ONE OF THE TANKS IN A PUMP STATION FAILS & CAN NOT BE REPAIRED, THE MONEY WOULD BE USED TO REPLACE TANK.**

*** State Revolving Funds (SRF) could be approved for GAVWD.

This money regulated by the state for the federal government for improving water systems. If borrowed for % years the Interest rate is approx. 1.3%

ESTIMATE REVENUES:

USERS 473 x \$241	=	\$113,993.00
LOTS 296 x \$60	=	\$17,760.00
HOOK-UPS 2 x \$2000	=	\$4,000.00
Federal Reimbursement	=	\$2,974.00
\$194,320.00	=	\$138,727.00

\$55,593 REMAINING FOR TAXES

TOWN WARRANT
State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Town of Gilford in the County of Belknap in said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet in the Gilford Middle High School in said Gilford, on Tuesday, the 10th of March, 1998 at eight of the clock in the forenoon (polls open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) to act upon the following articles appearing on the official town ballot; and on Wednesday, the 11th of March 1998 at 7:00 p.m. for the second session to act upon the remainder of the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1. To choose the necessary Town Officers for the following year.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to approve an amendment to the Town's Zoning Ordinance, Zoning Map and Historic District Regulations, as follows:

Amendment #1. Are you in favor of adopting Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

"Add a new use to Article 4, Table 1, Chart of Uses, as follows: '4.7.3(o) Outdoor Recreation - Passive, low intensity outdoor recreational uses which are not primarily structure oriented. Typical uses are golf courses, horseback riding stables and hiking and cross country trails. Minimum lot size shall be 25 acres'".

Amendment #2. Are you in favor of adopting Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

"Add a new use to Article 4, Table 1, Chart of Uses, as follows: '4.6.4(c) Boat Slip Rental - Rental of one, in the water, boat space for the summer boating season. Parking shall be provided as required in Article 7. Rental of more than one boat space in the water shall require approval under the Marina section of this ordinance'".

Amendment #3. Are you in favor of adopting Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

"Reduce the off street parking requirement for marinas from 1 1/2 spaces to 1 space per slip by amending Article 7, Off Street Parking and Loading, as follows: '7.3.3 Marinas - 1 space per slip (wet or dry) plus trailer storage spaces if needed'".

Amendment #4. Are you in favor of adopting Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

"Add clarification to the sign ordinance by amending Article 8, Signs, as follows: 'Signs erected in deeded rights-of-way, exclusive of public rights-of-way, which provide maintained direct access and are adjacent to the property to which the sign pertains shall not be considered offsite signs for the purpose of this ordinance'".

Amendment #5. Are you in favor of adopting Amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

"Amend the Official Zoning Map in the area of Blaisdell Avenue by adjusting zoning boundaries in the Blaisdell Avenue area to extend the existing Commercial District to include Lot #201-026 in its entirety, change Lots #201-028 and #201-029 from the Commercial District to the Industrial District, change Lot #201-030 from a combination of Commercial and Limited Residential Districts to entirely Industrial District, change Lot #201-031 from the Commercial District to Limited Residential District and change Lot #202-003 in part from the Commercial District to Limited Residential District."

Amendment #6. Are you in favor of adopting Amendment #6 as proposed by petition for the Gilford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

"Amend the Zoning Map to change certain parcels of land located on the southwesterly side of Route 11-B (Weirs Road) between Route 11-C and the current boundary of the Resort/Commercial (RC) District at land now or formerly of Rueffert (Tax Map #224, Lot 612.1) from their present designation as part of the Single Family Residential (SFR) District to designation as part of the Resort/Commercial (RC) District." (The Planning Board does not recommend the adoption of this amendment.)

SECOND SESSION

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1,960,783 for the following General Government expenses:

Account No.	Purpose	Recommended Approp.
109.00 &	Executive Expenses (Selectmen, Town	
110.00	Officers' & Budget Comm. Expenses)	\$ 291,493
246.00	Election, Registration & Vital Stats	146,247
123.72	Financial Administration	76,000
110.00	Appraisal Expenses	74,427
123.60	Legal Expenses	50,000
123.24	Personnel Administration	783,769
743.00	Planning & Zoning (includes L.R.P.C.)	157,099
840.00	General Government Buildings (includes Island Support & DPW Remediation)	175,117
141.07	Cemeteries	3,550
123.14	Insurance	203,081

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,449,080 for the following Public Safety expenses:

Account No.	Purpose	Recommended Approp.
304.00	General Operations - Police	\$ 833,050
412.01	General Operations - Ambulance Service	59,322
401.01	General Operations - Fire	521,461
141.41	Civil Defense	300
141.45	Youth Services Bureau	34,361
141.47	New Hampshire Humane Society	586

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1,549,932 for the following Public Works expenses:

Account No.	Purpose	Recommended Approp.
830.01	Highway Division	\$622,236
870.33	Street Lighting	17,967
820.01	DPW Administration	82,220
850.12	Vehicle Maintenance	126,575
860.01	Solid Waste Management	307,531
933.01	Sewer Department	376,349
141.63	Laconia Water Works	17,054

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 86,884 for the following Health & Welfare expenses:

Account No.	Purpose	Recommended Approp.
141.53	Lakes Region General Hospital	\$ 3,519
141.51	Lakes Region Community Health & Hospice	18,200
141.65	New Beginnings	1,080
141.49	Community Action Program	3,885
141.57	Lakes Region Family Services	3,500
134.07	General Assistance	55,500
141.67	American Red Cross	1,200

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 284,171 for the following Culture & Recreation expenses:

Account No.	Purpose	Recommended Approp.
502.00	Parks & Recreation	\$120,287
523.00	Skating Rink	8,215
623.00	Library	146,169
545.00	Patriotic Purposes	6,150
752.20	Conservation Commission	2,800
755.40	Historic District Commission	550

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 558,136 for the following Debt Service, Capital Reserve and other miscellaneous expenses:

Account No.	Purpose	Recommended Approp.
123.49	Principal - Long-term Bonds	\$280,950
123.50	Interest - Long-term Bonds	161,597
123.52	Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes	50,000
123.53	Principal - Winnepesaukee River Basin	5,588
141.61	Laconia Airport Authority	1
123.66	Capital Reserve - Fire Equipment	35,000
123.68	Capital Reserve - Tennis Courts	25,000

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$436,916 for the following Capital Purchases:

Account No.	Purpose	Recommended Approp.
830.80	Capital Equipment - Highway	\$ 50,350
401.33	Capital Improvements - Fire	34,343
304.33	Capital Improvements - Police	109,723
830.84	Highway Reconstruction	242,500

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$75,000 to purchase a dump truck for the Department of Public Works, to be financed in the following manner: (Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee)

Withdrawal from Capital Reserve	\$ 20,000
To be raised by taxation	55,000

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 as the town's share of realigning Blaisdell Avenue with McIntyre Circle and extending utilities along Blaisdell Avenue, to be funded by the use of unexpended fund balance. (Recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee.)

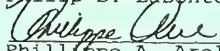
ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 162-K, Municipal Economic Development and Revitalization Districts, as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Further, to find that this action will serve public purposes by encouraging new development, providing employment opportunities, improving the tax base, and improving the general economy of the Town and local region.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to establish a development district, to be known as the Blaisdell Avenue Development District, adopt a development program and adopt a tax increment financing plan, as authorized pursuant to RSA 162-K as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. The District shall be established jointly with the City of Laconia as authorized pursuant to RSA 53-a. The Board of Selectmen and Laconia City Council shall appoint a Joint Board to act as district administrators and shall be authorized to manage the prudential affairs of the district, including but not limited to the execution of the Development Program and Tax Increment Financing Plan. The activities of the development district shall be guided by an advisory board, consisting of five members appointed by the Board of Selectmen and Laconia City Council for three-year, staggered terms. A majority of the members of the advisory board, as required by RSA 162-K:14, shall be owners or occupants of real property within or adjacent to the development district.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue as a town roadway that portion of Blaisdell Avenue from its intersection with Route 11 to its intersection with Brook Street, and to authorize the selectmen to convey the fee to said portion of Blaisdell Avenue to Thomas J. McIntyre Realty Trust or its designee, on terms and conditions acceptable to the board of selectmen, once the town receives ownership of that fee from the State of New Hampshire. The discontinuance of this roadway shall not be effective until there is constructed and opened to the public a new alternative entry into Blaisdell Avenue.

Given under our hands and seal this 11th day of February in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Eight.


Philip B. LaBonte, Chairman


Philippe A. Arel

Rudolph G. Lehr

SELECTMEN OF GILFORD, N.H.

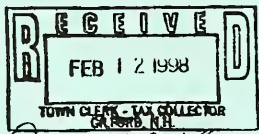
We hereby certify that we gave notice to the inhabitants of the Town of Gilford to meet for the 1998 Town Meeting at the time and place indicated in this Warrant, by posting an attested copy of this document on February 12, 1998, at the Gilford Middle High School, the place of meeting, and at the Town Hall, Gilford Public Library and Department of Public Works.

Philip N. Labonte
Philip N. Labonte, Chairman

Phillippe A. Arel
Phillippe A. Arel

Rudolph G. Lehr

Subscribed and sworn to this 12th day of February 1998.



Della E. Eastman

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
 MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIVISION
 61 So. Spring St., P.O. Box 1122
 Concord, NH 03302-1122
 (603) 271-3397



BUDGET FORM FOR TOWNS WHICH HAVE ADOPTED
 THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 32:14 THROUGH 24

BUDGET OF THE TOWN

OF GILFORD N.H.

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Ensuing Year January 1, 1998 to December 31, 1998 or
 for Fiscal Year From _____ to _____

IMPORTANT: Please read RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.

1. Use this form to list the entire budget in the appropriate recommended and not recommended area. This means the operating budget and all special and individual warrant articles must be posted.
2. Hold at least one public hearing on this budget.
3. When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the town clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address above.

THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE TOWN WARRANT

Budget Committee: (Please sign in ink)

Date February 11, 1998

James Ames
Alice Bowler
Don H. White
Richard W. Campbell
Glenn J. Quinn

Gudrun Magnusson
Suzanne Allen
Ernest L. Roy

Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (Ch. 215,7)	New Appr. Act?	Appropriations Prior & Approved by DRA	Actual Exp. Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS ENDING FISCAL YEAR		BUDGET COMPARISON & APPROPRIATIONS ENDING FISCAL YEAR	
					RECOMMENDED	BY RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	BY RECOMMENDED
GENERAL GOVERNMENT								
4130-4139	Executive		270,199	273,179	291,493		291,493	
4140-4149	Election, Reg. & Vital Statistics		141,251	131,728	153,982	4,800	146,247	12,535
4150-4151	Financial Administration		85,500	59,756	76,000		76,000	
4152	Revaluation of Property		78,340	75,971	74,427		74,427	
4153	Legal Expenses		50,000	59,414	50,000		50,000	
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		697,044	684,528	783,769		783,769	
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		147,974	146,513	157,099	1,500	157,099	1,500
4194	General Government Buildings		181,536	196,528	175,117	1,000	175,117	1,000
4195	Contracts		3,500	3,400	3,550		3,550	
4196	Insurance		143,500	106,436	203,081		203,081	
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.							
4199	Other General Government							
PUBLIC SAFETY								
4210-4214	Police		800,191	793,663	833,050		833,050	
4215-4219	Ambulance		43,359	42,250	57,442	12,059	58,792	10,709
4220-4229	Fire		520,730	530,112	524,561	12,493	521,461	15,593
4240-4249	Building Inspection							
4290-4298	Emergency Management		300		300		300	
4399	Other Public Safety (Including Communications)		33,587	33,587	35,200		35,200	
AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER								
4301-4309	Airport Operations							

Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (See 217, 4)	Wart Act)	Appropriations Fiscal Year As Approved By DMA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTOR'S APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR		HIGHEST COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS ENDING FISCAL YEAR	
					RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
BIKWAYS & STREETS								
4311-4312	Admin., Highways & Streets	5	669,451	649,690	704,456	23,409	704,456	23,409
4313	Bridges							
4316	Street Lighting		15,500	17,886	17,967		17,967	
4319	Other		123,633	124,477	128,075	2,050	128,075	2,050
SANITATION								
4321-4323	Admin. & Solid Waste Collection	5						
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		296,868	302,898	307,531		307,531	
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up							
4326-4329	Sewage collection & Disposal & Other		354,401	347,933	377,749	3,470	376,349	4,870
WATER DISTRIBUTION & TREATMENT								
4331-4332	Admin. & Water Services	5						
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conservation & Other		17,054	16,873	17,054		17,054	
ELECTRIC								
4351-4352	Admin. & Generation							
4353	Purchase Costs							
4354	Electric Equipment Maint.							
4359	Other Electric Costs							
HEALTH AND WELFARE								
4411-4414	Admin. & Pest Control	6						
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hospitals & Other		31,082	48,862	33,011		31,384	1,627
4441-4442	Admin. & Direct Assistance		55,500	49,441	55,500		55,500	

Acct. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 3213.9)	Vacc Act#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved By DCA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTOR'S APPROPRIATIONS ENDING FISCAL YEAR		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS ENDING FISCAL YEAR		
					RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments								
4445-4449	Vendor Payments & Other								
CULTURE & RECREATION 7									
4510-4519	Parks & Recreation		128,573	116,882	130,507		128,502	2,005	
4520-4529	Library		139,316	134,350	146,169		146,169		
4530	Patriotic Purposes								
4539	Other Culture & Recreation		6,700	6,087	16,700		6,700	10,000	
CONSERVATION 7									
4611-4612	Administration & Purchases of Natural Resources		1,710	1,246	2,800		2,800		
4619	Other Conservation								
REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING									
4631-4632									
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT									
DEBT SERVICE 8									
4711	Princ.- Long Term Bonds & Notes		280,045	279,939	286,538		286,538		
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		178,616	178,708	161,597		161,597		
4723	Interest on PMS		50,000		50,000		50,000		
4796-4799	Other Debt Service								
CAPITAL OUTLAY 9									
4901	Land								
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment		166,970	164,247	198,596		194,946	3,650	
4903	Buildings								

..SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

Special warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3, VI, as appropriations 1) in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations used by bonds or notes; 3) appropriating to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trusts funds; or 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a nonlapsing or nontransferable article.

Account	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3, V)	Warrant Article	Appropriations Fiscal Year As Approved By DRA	Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTOR'S APPROPRIATIONS DESIRING FISCAL YEAR		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATION DESIRING FISCAL YEAR	
					RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
TOTAL 2 Recommended								

..INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

Individual warrant articles are not necessarily the same as "special warrant articles". An example of an individual warrant article might be negotiated cost items for labor agreements or items of a one time nature you wish to address individually.

Account	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3, VI)	Warrant Article	Appropriations Fiscal Year As Approved By DRA	Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTOR'S APPROPRIATIONS DESIRING FISCAL YEAR		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS DESIRING FISCAL YEAR	
					RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
4902	Highway Truck	10			75,000		75,000	
4652	Economic Development	11			120,000		120,000	
TOTAL 3 Recommended								

Year 1998Budget - Town of GILFORD

MS

Acct. #	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art. #	Estimated Revenue Prior Year	Actual Revenue Prior Year	ESTIMATED REVENUE Budgeting Year
TAXES					
3120	Land Use Change Taxes		2,500	5,680	2,500
3100	Resident Taxes				
3105	Field Taxes		2,500	14,611	2,500
3106	Payment in Lieu of Taxes				
3109	Other Taxes				
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes		165,000	185,467	180,000
	Inventory Penalties				
LICENSES, PERMITS & FEES					
3210	Business Licenses & Permits		12,500	19,689	16,000
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees		675,000	895,274	855,000
3230	Building Permits				
3290	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees		27,500	31,558	31,000
3311-3319	FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT				
FROM STATE					
3351	Shared Revenues		80,000	80,000	80,000
3352	Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution				
3353	Highway Block Grant		142,498	149,348	145,132
3354	Water Pollution Grant		32,000	31,954	30,000
3355	Housing & Community Development				
3356	State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		1,500	16,26	1,500
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement				
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)		40,000		27,500
3379	FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS				
CHARGES FOR SERVICES					
3401-3406	Income from Departments		218,745	351,509	345,349
3409	Other Charges		140,000	140,000	140,000
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES					
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		15,000	18,960	15,000
3502	Interest on Investments		45,000	66,022	75,000
3503-3509	Other		13,400	13,413	23,100
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN					
3512	From Special Revenue Funds				

Year 1998

Budget - Town of GILFORD

MS-7

Acct. #	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. Art. #	Estimated Revenue Prior Year	Actual Revenue Prior Year	Estimated Revenue Encuing Year
3913	From Capital Projects Funds				
3914	From Enterprise Funds				
	Sewer - (Offset)		354,401	301,974	377,749
	Water - (Offset)				
	Electric - (Offset)				
	Airport - (Offset)				
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds				20,000
3916	From Trust & Agency Funds				
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
3934	Proc. from Long Term Bonds & Notes				
Amounts VOTED From Fund Balance ("Surplus")					
Fund Balance ("Surplus") to Reduce Taxes			500,000	500,000	500,000
TOTAL REVENUES & CREDITS			2,667,544	2,807,085	2,917,330

****BUDGET SUMMARY****

	SELECTMEN	BUDGET COMMITTEE
SUBTOTAL 1 Recommended (from page 4)	6,355,569	6,325,902
SUBTOTAL 2 Special warrant articles Recommended (page 5)		
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" warrant articles Recommended (page 5)	195,000	195,000
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended	6,550,569	6,520,902
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	2,917,330	2,917,330
Estimated Amount of Taxes To Be Raised	3,633,239	3,603,572

GILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
7:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1998
WARRANT

ARTICLE I. That the salaries of District Officers be set for the coming year as follows:

Moderator	\$ 20.00
District Clerk:	20.00
Chairperson of School Board:	1,500.00
School Board Members (4) each	1,000.00
District Treasurer	1,600.00

Recommended: School Board **Recommended: Budget Committee**

ARTICLE II. That the reports of the Agents, Auditors, and committees be accepted as printed in the 1997 Town Report.

ARTICLE III. That the Gilford School District raise and appropriate the sum of \$133,000 for the purpose of the development of engineering plans for an energy retrofit of the heat and lighting systems at Gilford Middle High School.

Recommended: School Board **Recommended: Budget Committee**

ARTICLE IV. That the Gilford School District raise and appropriate the sum of \$112,000 for the purpose of funding Capital Improvements at Gilford Elementary School and Gilford Middle High School. Specifically to include:

● REPLACEMENT OF MIDDLE HIGH GYM BLEACHERS	76,000
● REPLACEMENT OF TRACK LONG JUMP & POLE VAULT RUNWAY	10,000
● REPLACEMENT OF AUDITORIUM SEATING	<u>26,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 112,000

Recommended: School Board **Recommended: Budget Committee**

ARTICLE V. That the Gilford School District vote to accept the provisions of RSA 194-C providing for the withdrawal of the Gilford School District from School Administrative Unit #30 involving the school districts of Laconia and Gilmanton, in accordance with the provisions of the proposed district plan.

Recommended: School Board

ARTICLE VI. That the Gilford School District raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,700 for the purpose of funding the transition of the Gilford School District central office services as presented in the district SAU plan.

Recommended: School Board

Recommended: Budget Committee

ARTICLE VII. That the Gilford School District raise and appropriate the sum of _____ for the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officers and agents; and for payment of statutory obligations of the district.

Recommended/Not Recommended: School Board

Recommended: Budget Committee

ARTICLE VIII. Citizen Petition Article: To see if the voters agree to direct the Gilford School Board to do whatever is necessary to implement a phonics based reading program in the elementary level grades within one year of the passage of this article. The specific purpose of this article is to improve the quality of instruction in the Gilford schools by providing all Gilford students with the highest reading and grammatical skills possible.

ARTICLE IX. Citizen Petition Article: To see if the voters agree to direct the Gilford School Board to reverse its policy to limit or prevent public participation at public meetings and, instead

1. Schedule at least 15 minutes at the beginning and the end of each meeting and to accept public comments about items NOT on the agenda,
2. Set aside a reasonable amount of time after the board has discussed each agenda item, but before it votes on the item, to allow the public to ask questions and/or offer suggestions on the matter, and
3. Answer all questions from the public when asked or, if the answer is not readily available, to provide the answer publicly at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board. Deferred answers shall be scheduled items in the "old business" portion of the agenda.

The purpose of this article is to promote the involvement of the community in the education of its children and to foster a positive relationship between the community and its elected school board representatives.

ARTICLE X. Adjournment

(School Board Approval Pending)

GILFORD
BUDGET OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
1998-99

Section I Purpose of Appropriation	Approved 1997-98	School Board's 1998-99	Budget Comm. Recommended 1998-99
<u>Instruction</u>			
Regular Programs	5,275,683.61	5,593,204.00	5,593,204.00
Special Programs	868,254.85	924,031.00	924,031.00
Vocational Programs	22,000.00	28,000.00	28,000.00
Other Instructional Programs	220,309.00	301,484.00	301,484.00
<u>Support Services</u>			
Attendance & Social Work	2.00	1.00	1.00
Guidance	245,344.72	275,390.00	275,390.00
Health	115,553.88	93,709.00	93,709.00
Psychological	45,750.00	34,700.00	34,700.00
Speech Path. & Audiology	60,311.54	58,862.00	58,862.00
Improvement of Instruction	52,556.22	55,661.00	55,661.00
Educational Media	217,583.08	285,549.00	285,549.00
Other Inst. Staff Services	550.00	550.00	550.00
School Board	38,901.00	45,246.00	45,246.00
SAU Management Services	255,240.00	257,009.00	257,009.00
School Administration	788,854.60	760,458.00	760,458.00
Operation & Maintenance of Plant	1,106,193.50	959,243.00	959,243.00
Pupil Transportation	372,280.00	361,996.00	361,996.00
Food Service	5,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Facilities Acquisition and Construction		101,702.00	101,702.00
<u>Bond</u>			
Principal	285,000.00	285,000.00	285,000.00
Interest	83,363.00	64,838.00	64,838.00
<u>Transfer to Other Fund</u>			
To Federal Projects Fund	115,000.00	85,000.00	85,000.00
To Food Service Fund	315,000.00	315,000.00	315,000.00
Warrant Articles	_____	<u>281,700.00</u>	<u>281,700.00</u>
Total Appropriations	10,488,731.00	11,174,333.00	11,174,333.00

**GILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
ESTIMATED REVENUE**

Section II			
Revenues & Credits Available	1997-98 Revised	1998-99 School	1998-99 Budget
<u>To Reduce School Taxes</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Board's Revenues</u>	<u>Committee</u>
Unreserved Fund Balance	175,131.00	-----	-----
School Building Aid	86,122.00	86,122.00	86,122.00
Area Vocational School	2,100.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Driver Education	17,000.00	17,000.00	17,000.00
Catastrophic Aid	42,251.00	42,251.00	42,251.00
Child Nutrition Program	320,000.00	315,000.00	315,000.00
Handicapped Program	43,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
ECIA, Title I & II	46,500.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
School To Work	25,500.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Kindergarten Aid	51,750.00	51,750.00	51,750.00
Medicaid Reimbursement	-----	1,500.00	1,500.00
Tuition	1,237,785.00	1,465,000.00	1,465,000.00
Earnings on Investments	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Pupil Activities	1,150.00	20,500.00	20,500.00
Other Earnings	<u>2,450.00</u>	<u>37,450.00</u>	<u>37,450.00</u>
Total School Revenues and Credits	2,060,739.00	2,136,573.00	2,136,573.00
District Assessment	<u>8,427,992.00</u>	<u>9,037,760.00</u>	<u>9,037,760.00</u>
Total Revenues & District Assessment	10,488,731.00	11,174,333.00	11,174,333.00

